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Genealogy of the Tomkins (Tompkins) Family beginning with Joseph Tomkins who lived in the Passaic Valley, New Jersey.

1944757

I have prepared the following facts concerning the Genealogy of my mothers family hoping they may strengthen in my children their love of country: inspire a pride in the part their ancestors have played in its making and a resolution to do their part in preserving and improving the heritage left them.

I dedicate that which follows to the memory of David Bonnel Tomkins, my Grandfather's brother who went west to help make a new nation and found an unmarked grave on the prairies of Illinois.

H. D. Wilson

Rec'd apr 14-1977

M. D.

Sources of Material.

Presbyterian Cemetery,
New Providence, N.J.

Methodist Cemetery,
Piasa, Illinois.

Grandfather's old Bible.

Public Library, Plainfield, N.J.

Public Library, Morristown, N.J.

Public Library, Easton, Penn.

Grosvenor Library, Buffalo, N.Y.

Government Records, Shiloh
National Park, Tenn.

Family Records or Genealogies
of the Settlers of the
Passaic Valley,
John Littell.

Genealogical Magazine of
New Jersey.

New Jersey Historical
Society Vol. VI.

Inscriptions on Tombstones.

The old Presbyterian Church in New Providence, New Jersey celebrated its Two Hundredth Anniversary Nov. 21-22, 1937. The inscriptions given below were copied from tombstones in the cemetery of that church.

First Group.

Elder Joseph Tomkins
died Oct. 23, 1832
in his seventy-fifth year.

Ashbel A. Tomkins
born Aug. 22, 1806
died Dec. 15, 1886

Mary N.
wife of Ashbel A. Tomkins
born Jan. 7, 1809
died Aug. 5, 1860

Elizabeth H. Burnet
wife of A. A. Tomkins
born June 3, 1818
died Feb. 3, 1880

Huldah B.
daughter of Ashbel A. Tomkins
born June 5, 1837
died July 26, 1855

Second Group

Two names on one stone.

Philemon B. Tompkins
1829----------1909
Hester A. Tompkins
1838----------1913

Ann Eliza
wife of Philemon Tomkins
born Jan. 18, 1831
died---------1869

Hannah S.
daughter of
P. and A. E. Tomkins

William A.
son of
P. and A. E. Tomkins

Childern of Joseph Tomkins by his first wife Martha Campbell of Orange.

Sarah.....who died young.

Hannah....who married Jacob Marcell, of Newark, N.J. Feb. 25, 1809. Her residence at that time was Morristown N.J. The minister who performed the ceremony was the Rev. Elias Riggs of New Providence, N.J. The children of this marriage were:

Benjamin
Alfred
David
Stephen.
The family afterward moved to Illinois. I have at present no trace of their whereabouts.

David Bonnell..died about 35. Our family tradition is that he settled where New Albany, Ind. now stands and died a bachelor.

Nathaniel...who married Nancy Bedford the daughter of David of Columbia Morris Co. N.J. He lived on Stony Hill in Warren where his wife died. In the fall of 1848 he moved to Illinois with his son, William Allen Tompkins. He is buried by the side of that son in the Methodist Cemetery at Piasa Illinois.

Children of Joseph Tomkins by his second wife, Jerusha, a widow, daughter of David Bonnel, of Union, removed to Passaic Valley.

Ashbel Allen Tomkins..born Aug.22,1806. He died Dec.15,1886. These dates were taken from his tombstone in the Presbyterian Cemetery, New Providence, N.J. "Family Records or Genealogies of the Settlers of the Passaic Valley" by John Littell states that he was a blacksmith and lived in New Providence. It also states that he married Mary N.Bonnell, daughter of Philemon Bonnell, June 11,1828. From another source, which I neglected to record, I learned her name was Mary Noe Bonnell. The Genealogical Magazine Vol.IX states that Ashbel A.Tompkins was married to Polly Bonnell May 5,1828 by Rev.Jas.B.Hynshaw. The name may have been a nick name. The date in May may have been the date the license was secured.

I find no trace of other children by the second marraige of Joseph Tomkins.

There is a tombstone near that of Ashbel A.Tomkins that reads; Elizabeth H.Burnett, wife of A.A.Tomkins. From this it is evident Ashbel A.Tomkins was married twice.

Inventory
of the property of Joseph Tomkins.

Two things witness to the following being the Inventory of the property of my Great,Great Grandfather Joseph Tomkins.

1st:-The Administratrix was Jerusha Tomkins. That was the name of his second wife.

2nd:-He died Oct.23,1832. This Inventory was made Oct.31,1832.

If the men who made the Inventory indicate the character of his associates, Joseph Tomkins must have moved in the higher circles of his time.

John Crane who appeared before the Surrogate with the Inventory was a Great, Great Grandson of Stephen Crane who was one of the original Elizabethtown Associates. John Crane had a son,Sylvester who served as a Lieutenant in the Mexican War.

Luther Littell,the other appraiser was born April 20,1787 and died Feb.19,1833. He was elected to the State Legislature of New Jersey in 1829. At the time of his death he was a Colonel of Malitia.He must have been in poor health at the time the Inventory was made as he died the following year of consumption. He had a nephew of the same name who was a graduate of Princeton and became a Presbyterian Minister.

A study of the Inventory to ascertain if it contains hints as to the manner of life and the customs of the time in which Joseph Tomkins lived reveals the following.

The Inventory is divided into two parts. The first part mentions a barn and cow house. There is also a milk room. It mentions and gives the values of those things usually found about the out buildings of a farm. But it also mentions some things that would be used about living

Inventory
of the property of Joseph Tomkins.

quarters. This raises the question whether there might not have been some provision made for a servant, either occasionally or permanently employed. As Joseph Tomkins was 75 years of age and his wife 68 they may have required helpers.

The second part mentions and gives values of more elaborate household furnishings. Trammels, spinningwheels and spokes, probably for basket making, tell something of the mode of life. A half set of Newtons works indicate a love of learning. We know that he had been a Trustee and Stockholder of the Academy at New Providence, a town that had at first been called Turkey, probably from the flocks of wild turkeys that made their home there.

The coins used at that time, but now obsolete, are brought to mind by the frequent use of the bit, whose value was 12½¢. When the tub was valued at .06¢ the appraisers may have had in mind the picayune a small Spanish coin valued at .06¼¢, that circulated in the United States until 1857. The dime or nickel were never used in the values given in this Inventory.

The one who prepared my copy of the Inventory was not an expert typist. There are places that indicate mistakes have been made, erased and corrected. I think the line that reads "Lot & Wood & logs in woods", should read "Lot of Wood & logs in woods,".

A study of this Inventory impresses one with the many changes a hundred years have made. May it help us to appreciate the many oppertunities we enjoy all of which were purchased with the struggles, the privations and often the suffering of the pioneer.

Page 1.

Inventory of the property of Joseph Tomkins.
1832.

A true and perfect Inventory of the Goods and Chattels and effects of Joseph Tomkins late of Essex deccasd taken and apprized by the subscribers this 31st day of October 1832.

1 Mare	$40.00
2 heifers	13.00
½ a beef cow	8.50
1 cow	16.00
1 hog	8.00
1 old waggon body	.50
1 waggon	6.00
1 Basket & ½ Bushel	.50
harness	3.50
Hay in the barn	20.00
Oats	7.50
wheat	2.25
Rye	1.75
Axe	.50
Cutting box	1.00
Hay in the Cow house	5.50
hoe & shovel	.25
Pitch fork	.12½
Potatoes	4.25
haystock	.75
Corn in the Ear	14.28
wheat in the ground	4.00
2 fat tubs	.75
Table in milk room	.75
3 bed spreads	1.00
1 Straw bed	1.25
3 deer skins	1.00
Buckwheat	1.31
1 Iron pot & 1 skillet	.63
1 Tea kettle	1.00
1 Brass kettle	.12
3 Iron kettles	.75
1 Churn	.75
Cedar ware	2.50
1 Tub	.66
1 Gridiron & i Griddle	1.00
1 large Iron kettle	1.50
1 less Iron kettle	1.25
1 Barrel with vinegar	4.00
1 Iron pan	.12½
1 Brass kettle	2.00

Inventory of the property of Joseph Tomkins.
1832.

1 empty barrel	.25
Lot dried apples	.75
Teapots set cups & set plates	1.00
	181.90
1 Barrel with cider	1.50
4 Guns in cellar	1.00
old churn & barrel with apples	.50
Barrel with Soap	.38
1 pork barrel	1.00
1 Clock	8.00
1 Corner Cupboard	5.00
Tin ware	.75
2 Sugar boxes	.25
1 Set knives & forks	.75
1 dressers	.25
1 Table	.25
½ of Newtons works	2.00
7 Guns	1.75
Reel & 2 wheels	.75
2 boxes	.50
Kneading trough	.13
Lot & Wood & logs in woods	4.94
1 Looking glass	.88
6 chairs	3.75
1 Bed,bedstead & bedding	10.00
1 stand	.38
1 Clothes Cupboard	7.00
1 Mahogany Table	2.00
1 Bed,bedstead,Bedding & curtains	17.00
4 Bed & spreads	5.00
2 Blankets	3.00
1 armed chair	.50
1 Trunk	1.75
wearing apparel	18.50
Linnen &c in cupboard	3.00
dressors	.25
1 Rag carpet	3.75
1 Yarn Carpet	10.00
2 pair And Irons	3.00
2 pair Shovel & tongs	1.00
2 Trammels	.50
Crockery in corner cupboard	2.00
Wood in wood house	3.50
Logs & 4 feet wood	4.75
spokes	.50
	131.71

Luther Littell
John Crane

Inventory of the property of Joseph Tomkins.
1832.

There are certain amounts due on Books not exceding as supposed $5.00

Essex County, SS.

John Crane one of the appraisers within named being duly sworn doth depose & say that the Goods & Chattles Rights & Credits in the annexed writing set down and specified were by him appraised according to their just & true respective Rates & values after the best of his judgment and understanding-That Luther Littell the other appraiser was present at the same time with this deponent and consented in all things to the doing thereof, and that they appraised all things that were brought to their view for appraisement.

John Crane.

Sworn Nov. 14th 1832
before me.
Ol. S. Halsted,
Surrogate

Essex County, SS.

Jerusha Tompkins the Administratrix of Joseph Tompkins deceased, being duly sworn doth depose & say that the annexed writing contains a true & perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods & chattles Rights & Credits of said deceased, as far as the same have come to her possession or knowledge or to the possession of any other person or persons to her use or knowledge.

Jerusha Tomkins

Sworn Nov. 14th 1832)
before me)
Ol. S. Halsted,
Surrogate.

Jerusha Tomkins.

The second wife of Joseph Tomkins must have been a woman well fitted for the time in which she lived. I include the following sketch of her life, not because she was of my direct line, but because I believe her to be typical of the women of her day. Also because through her there was started a line for the preservation of the name Tomkins as descended from Joseph. I do not at this date (Dec. 8, 1938) know whether the name still lives. The last of the name I have been able to trace was Philemon Bonnel Tompkins, who died in 1909.

The spelling of her maiden name as given by John Littell in his Genealogies is not always the same. In connection with that of Joseph Tomkins it is given as Bonnel daughter of David Bonnel of Union. When speaking of her as the wife of John Beach it is given as Bunnel daughter of David Bunnel whose wife was Elizabeth Jones of Union.

In my research I have found no one of the name of Bunnel. Neither have I found a David Bonnel of an age that could have been her father. However, the name Bonnel was one long connected with eastern New Jersey. One, Joseph Bonnel, was the officer (Surrogate of the County of Essex) before whom John Cooper, witness to the will of one, Joseph Tompkins, appeared May 10, 1732 for the purpose of swearing to the identity of the will. I am therefore inclined to believe that Bonnel is the correct spelling and the other a mistake.

Jerusha Bonnel was born Jan. 17, 1764. We know nothing of her education but she must have had some as she was able to sign her name as Administratrix of the property of

Jerusha Tomkins.

Joseph Tomkins. Her first husband was John Beach, born May 17, 1757. They lived on Stony Hill. But afterward moved to Springfield, New Jersey.

Their first child, James Beach, was born March 7, 1782. James was married twice in New Jersey. After the death of his second wife he moved to Lexington, Kentucky. There he was again twice married. Two other sons, Joseph and Samuel, married Kentucky women and presumably lived there. There were six other children, all of whom lived to be married, except Christian who died at the age of 18.

By her second husband, David Muchmore, she had no children.

By her third husband, Joseph Tomkins, she had one son, Ashbel Allen Tomkins.

Several years after the death of Joseph Tomkins she went with one of her sons to Lexington, Ky. Is it possible that at her age she went with her son James after the death of his second wife to keep house for him? He had at that time two children both boys. They were William by his first wife and Elisha by his second.

Jerusha Tomkins died in Lexington, Ky. July 19, 1843. While she was not one of the mothers who went west to raise their families amid the privations and dangers of the early days; some of her children and several of her grandchildren, who married in the East, moved to the West, had a part and did their bit in its building. Surely such a woman had her part in the spirit portrayed by the "Madonna of the Trail."

Children of Ashbel Allen Tomkins, born Aug.22,1806,died Dec.15,1886.He was married twice. His first wife was Mary N.Bonnell, born Jan.7,1809,died Aug.5,1860.By her Ashbel A. had the following children.

Philemon Bonnell..born April 19,1829, died 1909.Philemon B.Tomkins was married Sept 24,1850 to Ann Eliza Osborn daughter of Asa Osborn. Ann Eliza was born Jan.18,1831, died 1869. Two children were born to them:

Hannah S. and
William A.

I found the graves of these children,marked daughter and son respectively,of P. and A.E.Tomkins by the side of their mother in the Cemetery in New Providence.No dates were given.May have been other children

The second wife of Philemon B. was Hester A.(The name was taken from her tombstone and maiden name was not given.) She was born 1838, died 1913. She is buried by the side of her husband and they have a common tombstone. Since he was but 40 and she but 31 when his first wife died there may have been children by this marraige.

Huldah Bonnell..born June 5,1837,died July 26,1855. She is buried near her father in a grave marked"daughter of Ashbel A.Tomkins". Evidently she was never married.

Twins were born April 22,1841.They were

Martha Bonnell and
Mary Hester.

I found no trace of their death. The date of birth is taken from Littell's work which was published in 1852. They may have lived and may have children still living.

I have, so far as I have been able to investigate, not been able to establish the date of the birth of Joseph Tomkins. It has been given me by Mrs. R.M. Kline, daughter of Allen Tompkins Clower, as Feb. 23, 1758. The source of the date I do not know. This Allen T, Clower made quite an extended search for data and doubtless had access to records I have not seen. The date is approximately correct as proven by the inscription on a tombstone in the Presbyterian Church Yard in New Providence, N.J. This inscription states that he died Oct. 23, 1832 in his seventyfifth year. It also states that he was an Elder.

Joseph Tomkins was married twice. His first wife was Martha Campbell of Orange, N.J. His second wife was Jerusha, a widow, daughter of David Bonnel.

The following taken from the New Jersey Historical Report Vol. VI, Pages 58 and 59, which I found in the Grosvenor Library, Buffalo, N.Y., will show that Joseph Tomkins was a man who was counted among the leaders of the community in which he lived. "April 15, 1817 a meeting was held in the interest of the Academy in New Providence, N.J. The Trustees appointed were Rev. Elias Riggs, Mr. Jacob Potter, Elias I. Thompson, John Wilcox, Joseph Tompkins, John Crane and Joseph Ludlow. The building was to be 21 by 38 feet; with 19 foot posts; two stories high; 8 windows below and 10 above. There was to be a stove and fireplace in each story. $4.75 per hundred was to be allowed for white oak timbers; $3.50 for pin oak timbers and $2.25 for pin oak boards. The largest subscription for stock was by the Rev. Elias Riggs, $140.00; the smallest was by Elias Riggs Jr., $1.40; the next smallest was $3.00. The total stock raised was $588.73. The stock of Philemon Bonnell was $10.00. The stock of Joseph Tomkins was $5.00. No one except the Rev. Riggs had more than $10.00 worth of stock.

So far as now known Joseph Tomkins had but four children by his first wife, Martha Campbell. The first two were girls, The third David Bonnell was, according to our family tradition, a bachelor. The privelege of preserving the family name therefore fell to Nathaniel, the youngest. He had by his wife, Nancy Bedford, two sons, William Allen and David Bonnell. The latter went to Illinois when a youth. He was, according to the tradition handed down to me, about 16 or 17 years of age when he died. He was buried in the Cemetery at Woodburn, Ill. When Wm. A. moved to Ill. he made an attempt to locate the grave. There was no one who knew its exact location. It is therefore unmarked. The privelege of perpetuating the name Tompkins, in his line of descent, now devolved on William Allen.

In Grandfather's old Bible is the simple statement that William A. Tompkins and Rebecca Vaughn were married Oct. 4, 1834 at Plainfield, N.J. For some years they lived on Stony Hill, N.J., near Smalleytown. My mother, Martha Jane Tompkins, told me he was a blacksmith. His health failing, his Doctor advised that he move West. This he did in the fall of 1848. He settled near Jerseyville, Ill., so called from the number of its settlers who came from New Jersey. Later he bought a farm near Piasa, Ill. where he spent the remainder of his life as a farmer. He and his wife are buried in the Methodist Cemetery at Piasa, Ill. Near him is buried his three sons. With them, they having died unmarried, the name Tompkins, as descended from Joseph and Martha ended.

The following page contains an inventory of the property of David B. Tomkins as recorded in the Surrogate's Office and furnished me by Thomas.A.Mathis,Secretary of State, Trenton, New Jersey.

This David B.Tomkins was evidently the brother of Wm.A.(Tomkins)Tompkins for the following reasons:-

1st:- In the book published by John Littell his name comes after that of Wm.A.Tomkins. In all cases with which I am personally acquainted Littell gives names in the order of birth.

2nd:-The Historical Sketch of the Presbyterian Church of New Providence N.J. written by A.G.Balcom states that the above John Littell was a Justice of the Peace. From the Judgments from his court held by David B. Tomkins they must have been well acquainted.

3rd:-The brother of Wm.A.Tompkins died in Illinois at about the age of 16 or 17. Wm.A.was born May 17,1812. If David was born after William A.and died in 1830 he must have been about that age.

4th:- Nathaniel Tomkins was the father of these boys. Littell states in his book that he lived in Warren on Stony Hill. Warren is a township of Somerset Co. It is evident that David B.,being a minor,still claimed a home with his father and had left his property with him.

5th:- Nathaniel Tomkins is named as administrator. There was no Will.

We the Subscribers in the township of Warren and State of New Jersy Being caled to aporais the personal property of David B. Tomkins Decd. and do adjudge the sd property as follows January 22th 1830.

	$	Cts
A stack of hay on Ludlow Squire	10	00
Two stacks of hay at the house	6	00
A fork and rake	0	50
Three hats	2	00
A pare of Boots	0	75
A jug and flask	0	25
Two Round about Coats	0	75
Two Waiscoats	1	00
A fine Coate	6	00
A pare of pantaloons	1	50
A handkerChief Shurt and pantaloons	0	25
A chest	0	75
Judgments on John Littles Esq. Docket	79	79
A Note against John A. Kiersted	1	25
A Due Bill assigned By Cournelieus Stages	2	85
A Due Bill against Joseph Alston	11	42
	125	06
by propperty in my hands	40	00

test Nathaniel Tomkins
David Leeson
David his X mark Munday

David Munday being duly sworn according to law did depose and say that the within writing contains a true and perfect inventory of all & singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of David B. Tomkins Decd. and that he appraised all things therein set down & specified according to their true respective rates & values to the best of his Judgment & understanding and that David Leeson the other appraisor was present consenting & that they appraised all things brought to their view for apprisment.

David X Munday

Sworn at Somerville Feby. 23 1830 before me
Jos. Frelinghuysen, Surrogate.

Nathaniel Tomkins admr. &c of David B. Tomkins being duly sworn saith that this writing contains a true & perfect inventory of all & singular the Goods Chattels & Credits of said decd. that have come to his knowledge or possession or to the possession of any other person or persons for his use.

Nathaniel Tomkins.

Sworn before me)
Feby. 23d 1830)
Jos. Frelinghuysen, Surrogate.

Recorded in Book D of Somerset Inventories in Surrogate's Offie on page 219 &c.

Copied from old
books once the property of
Nathaniel Tomkins.

From his old Bible
From the fly leaf
Nathaniel Tomkins
Born May 14,1789
From center of the Bible
Nancy Tompkins
diede April 23,1834.
From back leaf
Nancy Tompkins
dide April 23,1834.
The Bible is now owned by Chas.W.Clower,
Morrisonville, Illinois.

---oooOOOooo---

From a blank book in which he once kept accounts. The book is now in the opssession of Rev.John T.Clower,
Godfrey,Illinois.
Sept.29,1848.
This day settled all accounts with the booking of Nathaniel Tomkins and the books of Madizon Terrell and we are both content.
Nathaniel Tomkins
Madizon Terrell

Nancy Tompkins died April 23,1834.
Nathaniel Tompkins died May 10,1860.
David Tompkins died Nov.6,1837.
Joseph Tompkins born Feb.23,1758.
Martha Tompkins born Nov.23,1747.
Sara B.Tompkins born March 1,1781.
Hannah A.Tompkins born March 13,1783.
David B.Tompkins born March 2,1786.
Nathaniel Tompkins born May 14,1789.

There were other items given concerning members of my Grandmother,Rebecca Vaughn's family that I omit. They are to be found in my book of data.

Description of the land owned by Nathaniel Tomkins in New Jersey. Copied from the original Deed which is now in the possession of Charles W.Clower,Morrisonville, Illinois.

Beginning in the road leading across Stonyhill at a hickory tree corner of lands of said Daniel Runyon,Daniel Carle and Stephen Ruckman thence (1) on said Ruckmans line east with a small variation eleven chains and thirtyeight links to very near a whiteoak tree thence (2) on his line and that of Betsey Smalley and Samuel and Mahlon Smalley South two degrees East thirtyseven chains and sixty-five links to a stake & stones in a brush-fence-thence (3) South seventyeight degrees west six chains and nenetyeight links to the east side of Said Road thence (4) North thirtythree and a half degrees west (a butternut on the East side of the Road being in this line) nine chains and fiftyone links to a hickory tree on the west side of said Road being said Daniel Runyons corner thence (5) on his line in said Road North twelve and a half degrees west Fourteen chains to a Cherrytree thence (6) in said Road on his line North four degrees East three chains and twenty-three links to a stake in the Road eighteen links west of the Southwest corner of the house on this lot-thence (7) Still on said Runyon line in the middle of said Road North eight degrees east Fourteen chains and thirteen links to the place of Beginning Containing Fortyseven Acres of Land.

This Deed was signed by Daniel Runyon and Mary Runyon,his wife.

The witnesses were
Caroline Runyon and
John Littell.

Inscriptions on Tombstones
Methodist Cemetery Piasa, Illinois.

John Vaughn
died Feb. 7, 1861
aged 77 years, 3 mo., 19 days.
A native of New Jersey.

Nancy Vaughn
died Aug. 5, 1860.
aged 77 years, 33 days.
A native of New Jersey.

John son of J. and N. Vaughn
died Nov. 25, 1861
aged 34 years, 1 mo., 29 days.
A native of New Jersey.

Elizabeth Vaughn
died March 28, 1869
aged 49 years, 8 mo., 28 days.
A native of New Jersey

On the same stone

John V. Holland
June 4, 1823---Sept. 1, 1862.

Ann B. Vaughn his wife
May 20, 1822---April 17, 1911.

John V. Holland was not buried at this place. The stone is simply a memorial. He died at Tuscumbia, Ala. while serving in the Federal Army.

John S. V. son of J. V. and A. B. Holland.
died Feb. 5, 1860
aged 6 years, 5 mo., 11 days.

George L. son of J. V. and A. B. Holland
died Sept., 28, 1856.
aged 1yr., 8 days.

Nathaniel Tompkins
May 14, 1789---May 10, 1860.
A native of New Jersey.

William A. Tompkins
born May 17, 1812---died Jan. 28, 1890.

Rebecca V. wife of Wm. A. Tompkins
born Jan. 14, 1814---died June 28, 1902.

Inscriptions on Tombstones
Methodist Cemetery Piasa,Illinois.

Joseph S.Tompkins
died July 3,1867
aged 15 yrs.,11 mo., 17 days.
John V.Tompkins
Western Sharp Shooter
died at Corinth,Miss.
Sept.16,1862.
The inscription of age weather worn.
William F. youngest son of Wm.A. and R.V. Tompkins. died Feb.10,1860.

Thomas H.Wilson
died June 11,1869.
aged 66 yrs.,2 mo., 11 days.
Elizabeth wife of Thos.H.Wilson
died Jan.21,1879
aged 76 yrs.,1 mo.,12 days.
Charles B.Wilson
born Mar.25,1835 died Feb.24,1906.

On the same stone marked Wilson
Elizabeth
1839---1914
Esther Mable
1876---1913

On a large stone marked Wilson
John D.
1844---1922
Agusta his wife
1848---1927

Near a large stone marked Wilson
Thomas H.Wilson
1832---1914
Father
Martha J.Wilson
1843---1926
Mother

There is also a lot containing the graves of the Bowmans and Harrisons who were related to the Wilsons.

Children of William Allen Tompkins. Grandson of Joseph Tomkins, by his wife Rebecca Vaughn. Wm. A. Tompkins began the use Of "p" in the spelling if his name at the solicitation of his wife Rebecca.

Ann Bedford..Born on Stony Hill, Sommerset, Co. N.J. July 7, 1835. She married L.C.M. Clower, a farmer. She died Feb. 6, 1920 and is buried by the side of her husband in the Cemetery at Shipman, Ill.

Mary Elizabeth..Born on Stony Hill, Sommerset Co. N.J. Feb. 25, 1837. She married Thomas F. Clower, a farmer. He served as a soldier in the Civil War. She died Feb. 13, 1934 and is buried by the side of her husband in the Cemetery at Morrisonville, Ill.

John Vaughn..born on Stony Hill, Somerset, Co. N.J. Oct. 17, 1840. He was a member of Co. G., 66 Ill. Vol. Inf. The Historic record of that Regiment placed by the Government at Shiloh National Park states that he and another private, in their first engagement at Sturgeon Mo. went to the assistance of an Officer engaged in a hand-to-hand encounter with a Confederate Officer and saved his life. He died of tyaphoid and Pneumonia, while in the service at Corinth, Miss. His father went for the body and it is buried in the family lot at Piasa, Ill. Died 9/16/62.

Martha Jane..born on Stony Hill, Somerset, Co. N.J. July 2, 1843. She married Thomas Henry Wilson, a farmer. She died Oct. 2 1926 and is buried by the side of her husband and near her father in the Methodist Cemetery at Piasa, Ill.

Joseph S. Tompkins..was born July 16, 1851 near Jerseyville, Ill. He was killed by lightning, July 3, 1867, while helping his brother-in-law, L.C.M. Clower harvest wheat.

William F. Tompkins..born Jan. 3, 1854. Died with croup, Feb. 10, 1860. Both Joseph and William are buried near their brother John in the Methodist Cemetery at Piasa, Ill.

The following was given by word of mouth to Carrie R.Wilson by Mary Elizabeth Tompkins Clower. Mrs.Clower was a girl of about eleven years of age when she made the trip from New Jersey with her father,Wm.A.Tompkins. She was a woman in her eighties when she related the following.

David D,Smalley,afterward a member of the State Legislature of N.J.,then a neighbor living in Smalleytown,hauled the Tompkins family from their home on Stony Hill four miles north of Plainfield to the home of the father of Rebecca Vaughn Tompkins,near Princetown N.J.

The following Tuesday,John Vaughn a brother of Mrs.Tompkins took the family to Bordentown where they took a small steamboat to Philadelphia.

The trip from Philadelphia to Harrisburg was made on an emigrant train. From Harrisburg to Chambersburg the trip was made in a canal boat of the D.Leach & Co.Line.

The trip across the Allegheny Mts. to Johnstown,Pa.was made on a train a stationary engine lifting the cars over the steepest place of the incline.

Sunday was spent,without travel,in Johnstown.At Johnstown a boat of the D.Leach & Co.Line was taken to Pittsburg.Which place was reached on Tuesday.

At Pittsburg a small steamboat,the American,was taken to Cincinnati,Ohio.Here another small steamboat,the Lady Bryan, was taken to St.Louis.In going down the Ohio River the boat struck a snag and was not able to ascend the Mississippi River,so at Cario,Ill.all passengers were transferred to a boat called the Deadhem.

From St.Louis the trip to Alton,Ill.was made in a small steamboat,The Belle of Alton

The night was spent in a hotel but breakfast the following morning was prepared and eaten on the river bank. After breakfast a settler,who was returning to the settlement of New Jersey people near Jerseyville,was found.He hauled the family to the neighborhood where for some years they were to live. Their part in breaking the prarie and developing a new country was about to begin.

A Child is Taken West.

It was a bright autumn morning in the middle of October 1848. People were gathering on the river bank in the then small village of Bordentown, New Jersey. They were there to meet the boat that was soon to leave for Philadelphia. Among them, standing somewhat alone, was a small group evidently a family. They were near some household articles which indicated they were one of the many families then seeking a home in the West.

The group consisted of eight persons. An old man near sixty sat on a large box. It contained food to be eaten during the journey. For the protection of this food supply he used the top of the box for his bed during the trip west. A man and woman in their middle thirties were evidently the father and mother of the children. They were looking after the children and making preparations for the arrival of the boat. Two girls about eleven and thirteen years of age were looking forward to the trip and wondering what the new home would be like. A boy of eight was eager to start. He was doubtless thinking of the game in the new country and in his mind already enjoying the sport he would later have as a hunter. There was a young man of twenty-one, evidently not one of those who were leaving. He was quiet for one of his age. Who can say whether his mood was caused by the sorrow of parting or regret that he was not also starting to the West to carve for himself a future in a land of opportunity. Holding his hand was the last member of the group, a little girl of five.

She alone did not wish to go. The home of her babyhood had vanished but for her the future held no promise. She was too young to realize that the change was for the benefit of her father's health. Threatened with consumption, his Doctor had advised he go west. There in a different climate was a chance he might regain his health. In his old surroundings, the Doctor said, five years was perhaps the longest he could expect to live.

There was the whistle of the steamboat, it's landing, the lowering of the gangplank and the discharge of the passengers. The signal for outgoing passengers to go aboard was given. The father and grandfather went to see that the baggage was safely loaded. The mother called to the children. The two older girls and the boy

A Child is Taken West.

started for the boat. The little girl clung to the young man's hand. The mother said,"Come Martha it is time to get on the boat.Kiss Uncle John good-bye and come." The child repiled "I am not going to Illinois. I am going back to grandpa's with Uncle John."

Why the answer? Who can give the psychology of a child's decisions? A few days before she had,with the others,left the old home on Stony Hill;passed the little stone schoolhouse,where she had sometimes gone with her brother John, and had ridden to her grandfather Vaughn's near Princeton.She remembered her little playmates; the delicious pears and other fruits;the birds and flowers. Surely in all the world there could be no such Eden as she was leaving. She had often sat in fear as she listened to the stories of how the Indians led by a bad Indian, Tecumseh,had killed people in the West. How later in Illinois an Indian,Black Hawk,had led his warriors against white people. She had been told that her grandfather's brother had gone west and died where New Albany,Ind. now stands.She knew that her father's only brother had gone to Illinois and soon died presumably of fever. Surely the West was a place to fear. Was it love of the old or fear of the new that caused her decision?

I do not know.But long years after as I sat and listened to her stories,for little Martha was my mother,it was love of the old that filled them.As she talked I could almost taste the pears and see the holly-hocks that grew in old New Jersey.

But excuse the digression of an old man. That boat is about to sail and little Martha must be gotten on board. The older girls came to help their mother. "Martha," said they, "Come and see how nice it is on the boat where we are to ride.You never saw anything like it." Thus the sisters got her on board and led her about explaining things that were as new to them as to her. When they returned on deck the gangplank had been raised; the boat had left the dock; little Martha was separated from her beloved New Jersey.

None of that little group were ever again to see New Jersey,except Lib the second girl. Years after, as an old woman, accompanied by her youngest son,she returned. She saw Stony Hill,the old house,the spring and the little

stone schoolhouse. But what changes there had been. The young man who had taken them from Stony Hill to their grandfather Vaughn's was old. In the meantime he had married, raised a family and his wife had died. He had served as a member of the State Legislature. They found him living with two old ladies. They were his sisters, one of whom had been born since that October morning of long ago.

But I have again taken the privilege of age and wandered from my story. The journey evidently did not impress little Martha. In her stories in later life she had little to say about it. To her it was a thing not wanted, uncalled for and despised. There was, however, a little Irish girl that furnished little Martha some diversion. The first Sunday, which was spent in Johnstown, Pa. without travel, gave the travelers a rest. The three sisters left the boat and going to a freight car, standing on a switch, they climed in and sat in the door looking down at the boat. Suddenly there was the cry that a child had fallen into the canal. Mothers ran looking for their children. Their mother soon located her little girls safely seated in the car door. But an Irish voice cried in agony "Holy mither of God it is me Mary Ann." The old grandfather jumped into the canal, rescued the child and handed her on board.

Mary Ann later did a thing that almost made little Martha's mother wish she had been left in the canal. One day while the mother was cooking griddle-cakes Mary Ann came along and spit on the griddle. Punishment was administered quickly but not gently. Mary Ann's clothes were badly soiled. Her mother cried, "Lave me Mary Ann alone. Ye have dirtied the clane clothes I have just put on her." The reply she got was "Teach your Mary Ann to behave herself."

At Louisville, Ky. little Martha had her first worry. The father and mother left the boat to see the Kentucky Giant and buy supplies. The child was in dread that the boat would start and leave them until they returned with that balm of childish woes, candy.

One night there was a great commotion on the boat. They came and took little Martha out of bed telling her that the boat had struck a snag and was about to sink. She was taken in

A Child is Taken West.

her nightgown to the boat that had come to relieve them. I wonder if that is why little Martha never after cared for boat rides. The accident must have been near daybreak for when it was light they could see the boat still slowly sinking.

After two or three days they arrived in Alton, Illinois. It must have been in the afternoon. It was the second trip west for the grandfather. On leaving the boat, he immediately started for the hotel where he had once stopped, thinking the family would follow. But with the care of looking after the children the family lost him and went to another hotel.

Little Martha was now sure her dread of the West was justified. She had only just reached Illinois and her grandfather was lost. She refused to be quiet until her father had located the old man. Since he was already settled for the night it was agreed he should stay where he was. One day in looking through an old book I found written on the flyleaf, "Arrived in Alton Nov. 1, 1848." Was it written that night by one of the party before retiring to a comfortable bed, the first in more than two weeks?

The next morning the mother secured some baker's bread and honey, Breakfast was prepared and eaten on the river bank. I have often eaten breakfast at my grandfather's. I never knew him to omit family prayer before the morning meal. Staunch old Presbyterian that he was there was never a season so busy that it must be omitted. Did he that morning at the hotel gather his little family about him or did he on the river bank, on that crisp November day, kneel down and ask for Divine guidance and protection? After the morning meal they secured a ride with a man going in that direction to the home of an old neighbor who had sometime before moved from New Jersey. That night was spent amid friends with all the comforts of a home.

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While I have tried to make the above an interesting story the facts stated are the family traditions as handed down to me.

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Family of William Clower.

Much of the following was furnished me by Velma Clower Kline and Charles W. Clower.

In the summer of 1923 at the Clower reunion held in the park at Taylorville, Ill. Mary E. Clower, widow of Thomas F. Clower, read a paper. In that paper she stated that William Clower and Rebecca Howell were married in New Jersey and lived in Mercer County until the year 1838 when they moved to Ohio. They moved in the fall and settled on a farm near Dayton. Here they lived until the spring of 1851 when they moved to Ill., settling near Jerseyville. In the spring of 1854 they moved to Christian County, Ill. and settled on the prairie some 12 or 13 miles east of Virden.

Allen T. Clower in his data concerning the Clower family gives Cross Keys, ten miles from Trenton, N.J., as they place where they lived before moving west.

When they settled in Christian County there was little broken prairie. Two years later when Thomas F. Clower and his bride settled near them there were only about 5 or 6 houses between Virden and Taylorville, a distance of some 30 miles. I have not been able to ascertain the place where they received mail at that time. However, since the first town lots were sold in Virden in 1852 and the Chicago and Alton Rail Road was being built that year it is most likely that there was a Post Office in Virden by 1854.

Government land could be bought for $1.25 per acre. The soil was of a black sticky texture that made travel in wet weather almost impossible. In wet seasons, every low place became a lake. The first visit I can remember to that neighborhood was when I was about 7 years of age. The home of my Uncle (T.F. Clower) was on an Island. With no artificial drainage the lower

land around it had become a lake. My Uncle and his brother John had met us at Virden with four horses hitched to a spring wagon. Part of the time we all rode. In the worst places the two men and I walked. Grandfather Tompkins, Grandmother, Mother and Sister were able to ride all the way. The last half mile from the little old Shiloh School House to the home was through water in many places belly deep to the horses. In that early time men traveling in a regular farm wagon often found it necessary to get out and scrape the mud from the wheels. It would wind up until it would strike the wagon box and act as a brake.

Uncle had a fine grove of cottonwood trees planted for a wind break north of the house. When it was first set out the wild deer used to come and eat off the tops of the little trees. The first trees he set out were dug up at and carried in his overcoat pocket from the Macoupin Creek.

Charles W. Clower is authority for the statement that when his father settled in Christian County it was a hunter's paradise. There were ducks, geese, crane, prairie chicken, quail, rabbits and deer in plenty. Wolves were not uncommon. It was ten years before the first school house was built. It was two miles to the west and was built of logs that were hauled about ten miles. Before the building of this school house all preaching services were held in the homes. The local school house known as the Shiloh school was built a few years later.

The first church built on the prairie was built about a mile north of Pawnee about 12 miles distant. The local church known as the Shiloh Church was not built until 1874.

Of the four boys in William Clower's family two were soldiers in the Civil War. They were Thomas and John. The latter lost an eye in the battle on Lookout Mountain.

Family of L.C.M.Clower.

Lucian Charles Maratt Clower was born in Mercer County,N.J. about ten miles from Trenton. He moved with his father,William Clower, first to Ohio, later to Illinois where they joined the colony of settlers from New Jersey near Jerseyville. He was born Dec,6,1830. He died on his farm near Shipman,Ill.June 21,1902.

Ann Bedford Tompkins was born on Stony Hill, Somerset County,N.J. July 7,1835. She died in the home of her daughter,Mrs.Eva E.Hill,Morrisonville,Ill. Feb.6,1920.

L.C.M.Clower and Ann B.Tompkins met in the neighborhood of Jerseyville,Ill. I have not been able to ascertain the date of their marriage. They were married in the home of the bride's parents near Piasa,Ill. by Rev.French. They first lived on a farm near Pawnee,Sangamon Co.,Ill. The land was cleared timber land. The house part of logs and part of lumber was situated about a half mile south of the old Horse Creek Church. He helped break the sod on his father's farm in the Shiloh neighborhood in Christian Co.,Ill. Not succeeding near Pawnee he moved to Macoupin Co.where he purchased a farm from a Mr.Blodget of Brighton. It was located near Shipman. Here he lived until his death. The farm of 80 acres was joined on the east and south with unbroken sod. Just to the north lived a family by the name of Andrews. The house was a one room log cabin. Here the family of five lived. Here another son,John L., was born.

Along the eastern line of the 80 was a natural pond.It was an ideal place to kill a mess of wild ducks in season. The second boy,Will, told me that one day he and his brother George

playing near this pond found what they thought was a little calf. They took it to the house. It proved to be a fawn. One of the duties of the boys was to go out on the prairie and drive the cows home at night. Will said that they broke a young steer to ride and used him to drive the other cattle. He also said they discovered if they mounted the steer with their backs toward its head it was easier to keep their seat while breaking it.

Soon after the birth of his son John, Lucian Clower built a granery. In this the family lived while a five room frame house was being built. In this new house three children were born, Edward F., Annie R., and Edna B. Late in life he added to this house and it became a two story house of eleven rooms with a cellar under the entire building. At the time if his death he owned a farm of 260 acres of prairie land.

Children of Lucian and Ann Clower.

George Howel Clower born Sept.26,1855.
died Jan.14,1939.

William Thomas Clower born Dec.25,1857.
died June 7,1935.

Eva Elizabeth Clower born Aug.31,1860.
died Dec.18,1938.

John Lucan Clower born April 3,1863.

Edward Francis Clower born Jan.25,1866.

Annie Rebecca Clower born Feb.14,1871.

Edna Belle Clower born June 14,1880.
died July 19,1925.

George Howel Clower and Fannie Isabelle Roady(born July 30,1858) were married near Fidelity,Ill.Feb.10,1881 by the Rev.J.W.Philips. They lived on rented farmes for a time,then bought one near Kemper,Ill. Later they sold it and bought one near Piasa,Ill. Here they lived until age compelled him to quit farming. They had the following children:

Walter William Clower,born Aug.1,1882.He is an accountant.He married Sara Ann Whitlock (born Jan.14,1884)in Chicago,Ill.June 21,1906. They have the following children.

Margaret Esther,born April 11,1908.
Catherine Louise,born May 27,1912 died Aug.2,1932.
Eugene Weston,born June 12,1918.

Eunice Ann Clower,born Feb.10,1884. Sept.10, 1909 she was married to Charles L.Hodges,a Canadian farmer,in Fort Pierre South Dakota by Justice McGuire. They have no children.

Rolla Nathaniel Clower,born Dec.5,1885.He is a Freight House Foreman.He was married to Mary Hunt in Upper Alton,Ill.by Rev. Gates. They have one child:

Dorothy Viola,born Sept.3,1929.

Henry Lucan Clower,born Nov.1,1887.He is a Station Agent.He was married,June 6,1916 to Jelma Jones,in Brighton,Ill.,by Rev.Carlton R.Wade. They had no children and were divorced by the Macoupin Co.Court Feb.8,1922. His parents live with him.

Della Rebecca Clower,born Aug.27,1889.She lives with and helps care for her aged parents

Viola Isabelle Clower,born Mar.17,1891.She was married to Sherman R.Wilson,Mar.9,1912 in Winchester,Ill.by County Judge Funk. She died childless; Aug.22,1928.

Estelle Charlotte Clower,born Jan.19,1894.She was married to a farmer,Arthur Henry Gwillim(born Feb.23,1894) Feb.5,1916 in Carlinville,Ill.,by Rev.A.H.Rhodes. Their children are:

Bernice Irene,born Sept.11,1919
Dale Clower,born Mar.3,1921 died Nov.2,1921.
Donold Dee,born.Aug.7,1927.

Opal Mae Clower,born Jan.26,1900.She was married to a farmer,Earl Thomas Hunt(born June 12,1900) Aug.17,1922 in Medora,Ill by Rev.Wm.Gaitar.Their children are:

Fannie Mae,born Mar.19,1924.
Rebeca Ann,born Mar.29,1937.

William Thomas Clower was born near Pawnee, Sangamon Co., Ill. Dec. 25, 1857. He died at the home of his niece Opal Clower Hunt June 7, 1935. His death was the result of a stroke that came while he was working at his trade on the home of his niece. Raised on the farm he bought a farm near his father. On this farm he lived until the death of his wife. He worked at the carpenters trade with his wife's father. He became one of the best workmen in his comunity. At the time of his death the farm had been sold and he was living with his daughter Gladys in Piasa, Ill.

Ella Mary Deahl, daughter of Adam Deahl, was born July 25, 1870 at Shipman, Ill. She died July 10, 1930.

William T. Clower and Ella M. Deahl were married Oct. 30, 1889 in her father's home near Shipman by the Rev. Dr. Springer. They are buried in the cemetery at Shipman.

Children of William and Ella Clower.

Infant child born and died Jan. 23, 1896.

William Deahl Clower born Nov. 10, 1898. He was married Nov. 1, 1916 to Nellie Eales. She was born Sept. 13, 1898. He became dissipated and they separated. She remarried and lives near Godfrey, Ill. He left Illinois and early in 1936 married a Hutchinson, Kansas girl whose Christian name is Mable. They have a son, Lloyd, born sometime in 1937. I have no definite information as to their present location.

Children of Wm. D. and Nellie Clower.

Dorothy Elizabeth born April 24, 1918.

Bettie Edith born Aug. 22, 1920.

John William born Feb. 12, 1923.

Gladys Elizabeth Clower was born July 2, 1904. She is a teacher by profession.

Annella Virginia Clower was born April 6, 1908. She was married June 19, 1926 in the Methodist Parsonage in East Alton, Ill. by the Rev. G. Calvert. Her husband, Charles Leslie Allen, was born in Green Co. Ill. June 26, 1905. He is a carpenter and is now working as a foreman in Alton, Ill. Their children are:

Virginia Mary Allen, born Sept. 11, 1927.

Charles William Allen, born Oct. 9, 1929.

Jean Elizabeth Allen, born Oct. 12, 1931.

Betty Ann Allen, born Sept. 3, 1934.

Jo Annita Allen born Dec. 19, 1936.

James Manford Allen born July 22, 1938.

Eva Elizabeth Clower was born near Pawnee, Illinois Aug.31,1860. She died Dec. 18,1938. It was Sunday evening. She started for church telling her brother John that she would be late returning and not to remain up for her as she was going with a friend and would have company returning. She was found dead the next morning at the foot of the steps leading to the door of the home of her friend. Evidently when she arrived her friend had already gone. The friend on returning entered the house by another door. Eva fell as she was leaving the house. Why she fell or how long she lay on the ground before death is not known.

Charles Allen Hill was born in Trenton, N.J. March 7,1844. He died in Morrisonville, Ill. Nov.22,1913.

Eva E. Clower and Charles A. Hill were married in the home of the bride's parents near Shipman, Ill. Apr.7,1889 by the Rev. S.F. Rice.

They are buried in the cemetery at Morrisonville, Ill. There were no children by this marriage.

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John Lucan Clower was born near Shipman, Ill. April 3,1863.

Phebe Alice Hucklebridge was born Dec.29, 1860 at Centerville, Ill. She died Oct.25th,1901.

John and Phebe were married in her father's home in Bunkerhill, Ill. Feb.4,1890 by Rev. Slater, Congregational Minister from Woodburn, Ill.

There was a child born and died July 7,1895.

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Mrs. Lucy Wheeler widow of Robert Wheeler was born in England March 16,1861. She died June 21,1925. She became the second wife of John L. Clower Dec.12,1904. They were married in Carlinville, Ill. by Rev. John T. Clower. There were no children.

Rev.E.F.Clower.

Edward Francis Clower was born on the farm near Shipman, January 25,1866.
Lillie Wilton was born in Somerset Shire, England,July 30,1865.
They were married at Medora,Ill.,April 23,1891 by the Rev.J.L.Wilder a Methodist Minister.

Edward,beginning life as a farm boy, was destined to lead a varied life. His early schooling was secured in a one room country school. One of the kind that,the people of the Illinois of that day boasted,made it impossible for any child in the state to be compelled to travel more than two miles to attend school. When he first left home it was to attend school at Blackburn University. This school was located in Carlinville,the County Seat.It had been established in 1859 by the Rev.Gideon Blackburn D.D. He was a Presbyterian Minister a native of Virginia of Scotch-Irish descent. His dream was to plant a Theological Seminary in Illinois.The school,now known as Blackburn College, is still in operation.

Soon after leaving school he married and Dock,as he was known to his friends, became a merchant in Piasa. In a few years he left his native state and went into the mercantile business at Dysart,Iowa.From there he went to Bigelow,Minn. Here he edited a paper and later became Post Master.

Being convinced he should enter the ministry he was ordained a Methodist Minister. He first joined the Nebraska State Conference.From that he transferred to the Wyoming State Mission. Later he went to the Inter-mountain Conference.

As he grew old he was attacked by creeping paralysis. He was cared for in the Deaconess Hospital,Salem,Oregon.With him the line founded by Joseph Tomkins and Martha Campbell completed its trek across the continent. The work of its members has ever been to lay foundations on which others might build.They helped establish schools,select sites for cities,teach the youth,spread the Gospel and,not to be forgotten humble though it may be,break the sod of a new country.

Rev.E.F.Clower.

Children of Edward F. and Lillie Clower.

Sidney George Clower born June10,1892 at Medora,Ill. Being closely associated with a news paper office as a child he naturally became a printer. When twenty-one years of age he became the owner of the Crapenter News, Carpenter,Wyoming. This paper he operated until July 1916 when he became printer on the Laramie Republican, Laramie,Wyo. He remained there until May 4,1917. On that date he enlisted in the United States Army at Fort Logan,Colo. He was transferred to 4th Co. Coast Artillery Corps C.D. Oahee Fort Ruger,Honolulu,I.H. He served until Feb.6,1919 when he received an honorable discharge at Honolulu.

Returning from the Army he resumed his work with the Laramie Republican where he remained until Sept.13,1919.The following is a list of the places employed since that date. Sept.15,1919 to Feb. 1920 Sheridan Enterprise,Sheridan,Wyo. March 1920 to Nov.24,1924 he farmed near Gooding,Idaho. Nov.24,1924 to May 1927 with Leader Herald,Nanopa, Idaho. May to Aug.1927 with Capitol News,Boise,Idaho. Aug.to Dec.1927 with Great Falls Tribune,Great Falls, Montana.Jan.1,1928 he again quit his trade and resumed farming,this time near Wendell,Idaho.

Valma Ilene Neilson was born June 20,1901 at Elsinore,Utah.She became the wife of Sidney G.Clower Dec.20,1920. The ceremony was performed by his father the Rev.E.F.Clower.They were married at Shoshone,Idaho.They have a daughter.

Mildred Mae Clower born Jan.1,1922.

Elane Mattie Clower 2nd child of Rev.E.F. and Mrs.Lillie Clower was born Nov. 29,1904. She is a teacher by profession and is employed in the State of Oregon.

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Annie Rebecca Clower.

Annie Rebecca Clower was born Feb.14,1871. She was married Oct.4,1893 in her father's home by the Rev. Grant Smerl.Her husband was John Franklin Keas. He was a farmer. To his friends he was known as Frank. He was born March 17,1867. He died Dec.3, 1924. For some years they lived near Piasa,Ill. In that neighborhood all their children were born except Eugene F. Before his birth the parents had moved to Kansas and bought a farm near Chanute. Later the farm was sold and a home bought in Chanute. There the father died.

Children of Annie R.Clower and J.F.Keas.

Charles Lucian Keas born Aug.13,1894. He was married June 7,1916 in Iola, Kans.by a Baptist Minister to Alta Elizabeth Cooper who was born Feb. 24,1894 at Chanute,Kans.

Children of Charles L. and Alta E.Keas.

Kenneth Charles Keas born Feb.25, 1917.

Virginia Alta Keas born Sept.19, 1920.

Mildren Frances Keas born Oct.5, 1922.

Phebe Blanche Keas born Jan.17,1896. She was married June 7,1917 near Chanute,Kans.by the Rev.W.W.Searcy to Bert Lee Donaldson.He was born May 27,1895. His occupation is farming.

Children of Phebe B. and B.L.Donaldson.

Rebecca Ellen Donaldson born April 7,1918.She was married June 7,1938 in Effingham,Kans. by the Rev.L.E.Griffiths. Her husband was Ray Robert Shannon. He was born Feb.9, 1917 at Mound City,Kans.

Max Lee Donaldson born March 22,1921

Annie Rebecca Clower.

George Robert Keas.r,son of Annie R. and J.F.Keas, was born April 6,1897; died June 19,1897.

John Clower Keas born Mar.20,1901.He was married July 16,1927. His wife was Leona Odessa Supernaugh born June 7,1900 at Bucyrus,Kans. They were married at Halstead,Kans.by the Rev.W. W.Owen. John C.is a farmer. He is located on a farm near Effingham, Kans.Where he is giving especial attention to developing a herd of purebred Ayrshire Cattle.

Children of John C. and Leona O.Keas.
Roberta Jean Keas born Oct.31,1928.
Doris Elaine Keas born May 23,1931.

Clara Alice Keas born April 15,1903. She was married July 31,1920 in Iola, Kans.by County Judge Smith. Her husband was Lewis Richard Kepley who was born July 21,1901. He was an Electrician and was electrocuted while on duty Aug.13,1921.

Child of Clara A.Keas and Lewis R.Kepley.
Glen Albert Kepley born July 14,1921

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Clara Alice Keas Kepley was married a second time. Her second husband was Francis Nourse. They were married at Paola,Kans. June 2,1932 by the Rev.W.L.Wlaum a Baptist Minister.

Infant child of Annie R. and J.F.Keas. born Mar.21,1905;died Mar.23,1905.

Wesley Albert Keas born Dec.14,1908. He was married Sept.3,1928 in Winfield, Kans.by C.W.Swengel. His wife was Lois Black born in Butler County, Pennsylvania Feb.2,1904.

Eugene Franklin Keas born Oct.24,1914.

Edna Belle Clower was born on the farm near Shipman June 14,1880. She died in her farm home near where she was born July 19,1925.

Gilbert Gardiner Green was born Oct.20,1877. He was a farmer.

Edna B.Clower and Gilbert G.Green were married in her father's home Dec.26,1900 by the Rev. William Gaither.

Children of Edna B. and Gilbert G.Green.

Edith Ann Green born June 11,1903. She was married June 21,1930 in Springfield, Ill.by the Rev.Harmon Wheeler.Her husband was Norman Joshua Jasper, Rural Mail Carrier at Shipman,Ill. He was born at Manchester,Ill. Nov.12,1897.

Children of Edith A. and Norman J.Jasper.

Gordon Charles Jasper born Mar.19,1932.
Norman Joshua Jasper Jr.born July 30,1933.
Lorraine Cannelia Jasper born Dec.15,1937.

Gilbert Earl Green born April 29,1905.
died Dec.11,1909.

Infant,born Nov.7,1913.Died Nov.10,1913.

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Eight Generations from Joseph Tomkins.

1st Generation	wife
Joseph Tomkins.	Martha Campbell.
2nd Generation	wife
Nathaniel Tomkins.	Nancy Bedford.
3rd Generation	wife
William Allen Tompkins.	Rebecca Vaughn.
4th Generation	husband
Ann Bedford Tompkins	Lucian Charles Maratt Clower.
5th Generation	wife
George Howel Clower	Fannie Isabelle Roady
6th Generation	wife
Walter William Clower	Sara Ann Whitlock.
7th Generation	husband
Catherine Louise Clower,	Clarence Olson Smith.

Clarence O.Smith was born Mar.25,1904. He and Catherine L.Clower were married in East Alton,Ill.July 21,1928 by the Rev. H.S.Sparks.

Their Children of the 8th Generation.

Ruth Shirley Smith born Aug.26,1929.
Clarence Eugene Smith born May 19,1931.
The Children live in Springfield,Ill.

Family of Thos.F.Clower.

Thomas Frazier Clower,son of William and brother of Lucian,was born in New Jersey Jan.17 1833. He died Jan.6,1901,sitting in a rocking chair in the home he had built on the farm one half mile north of the Shiloh School House.The original 80 had become a farm of 260 acres.

Mary Elizabeth Tompkins born on Stony Hill near Plainfield,N.J.Feb.25,1837, died in the home of her son Charles W.Clower in Morrisonville,Ill.Feb.13,1934. She was active to the last. Two days before her death she started a letter to my sister and I. She was too sick to finish it. Her son Charles completed the task.

They were married Jan.24,1856 in the home of her father near Piasa. The following June they settled on the farm he had purchased from the Government.Here they lived until his death, except during the time he was in the army. He became a great hunter. During the winter season John V.Tompkins and he would kill game and ship it east. As a boy I have spent many happy evenings listening to his stories of the early days. The days of sport were broken up by the war. John enlisted at the beginning. Later Thomas was drafted. His father-in-law offered to hire a substitute for him.He refused to accept saying,"I would not enlist and leave my wife and children but I shall not ask another man to take my risk", He served until the close of the war in Co.H,30 Ill.Reg.,3rd Div. of the 17th Army Corps. He was in the Grand Review in Washington. His Regiment was one of those selected to be sent to Mexico had not France withdrawn her forces.

Children of Thomas F. and Mary E.Clower.

Rebecca Ann Clower born April 14,1857.
died May 18,1857.

Mary Matilda Clower born Jan.10,1859.
died Oct.26,1891.

John Thomas Clower born Feb.19,1861.

Joseph Henry Clower born April 13,1863.
died May 5,1934.

Leak Howel Clower born.Jan.12,1867.

Cornelia Clower born Jan.1,1869,died Jan.7,1869

Charles Wilson Clower born Feb.4,1871.

Allen Tompkins Clower born Aug.17,1874.
died June 30,1935.

"1"

Mary Matilda Clower.

Mary Matilda Clower was born in the old home just north of the Shiloh School House Jan. 10,1859. Almost two years before a little sister had been born to live but a month. Tillie,as she was known,spent all her life, except the time her father was in the army, in the neighborhood where she was born.During that time she,her mother and two brothers,John and Joseph, lived with her grandfather, Wm.A.Tompkins,near Piasa. Oct.26, 1882 she was married to Solomon Bigley Sink, a farmer and native of Pennsylvania. They were married in her father's home. Their children were all born in Illinois near where she was raised. She died Oct.26,1891.

Children of Mary M. and Solomon B.Sink.

Leah Elizabeth Sink born Nov.2,1884. She was married to Levi Elmer LaFrance,a farmer, who was born April 30,1882 at Transue,Pa. They were married at Silvara,Pa. Nov.27, 1902 by the Rev.J.H.Davis.

Children of Leah E. and Levi E. LaFrance.

Genaveve Ruth LaFrance born March 7, 1904 at Skinner's Eddy,Pa. She was married Oct.15,1921 at Moutrose,Pa. to Raymond Ace by the Rev. Louis VanHousen.

Raymond Ace was born Jan.18,1900 at Lehigh,Pa.

Children of Genaveve R. and Raymond Ace.

Donald Levi Ace born Mar.12,1923 at West Auburn,Pa.

Francis Charles Ace born April 26, 1926 at Clapper Hill,Pa.

Howard Lester Ace born Mar.9,1928 at Clapper Hill,Pa.

"2"

Mary Matilda Clower.

Mary Pauline LaFrance born Nov.20,1908 at Skinner's Eddy,Pa. She was married Oct.3,1928 at Fairdale,Pa. to Kenneth Lloyd Tewkebury by the Rev.David Wolfe.

Kenneth Lloyd Tewkebury was born July 10,1905 at Retta,Pa.

Children of Mary P. and Kenneth L. Tewkebury.

Joan Elizabeth Tewkebury born Sept.10,1934.

Clyde Sink LaFrance born Aug.29,1912 at Retta,Pa.

Vergie Etta LaFrance born Oct.10,1915 at Silvara,Pa.

Alice Clower LaFrance born Jan.29,1924 at West Auburn,Pa.

William Lee Sink,2nd child of Mary M. and Solomon B. Sink,was born Aug.17,1886. He is a farmer. June 10,1908 he was married to Caroline Agnes France who was born Aug.10, 1888 near Philadelphia,Pa. The ceremony was performed by the Rev.Johnson at West Auburn, Pa.

Children of William L. and Caroline A.Sink.

Herbert Everett Sink born Feb.6,1910. died Mar.24,1919.

Leola Agnes Sink born Nov.14,1911. Sept.28,1935 she was married to James Stevenson of Camden,N.J. A daughter,Barbara Lee Stevenson, was born to them Dec.3,1936 in Philadelphia,Pa.

Alva Lyle Sink born Aug.16,1918.

Harvey E.Sink born July 31,1920.

Berneta Anna Sink born July 3,1923.

Dana Thomas Sink,3rd child of Mary M. and Solomon B.Sink,was born April 15,1889.He is a farmer. Jan.22,1911 he was married to

"3"

Mary Matilda Clower.

Fannie Cook who was born at Potterville, Pa. Jan. 22, 1893.

Children of Dana T. and Fannie Sink.

Leora Elizabeth Sink born Nov. 15, 1912.

She was married Dec. 1, 1932 to Stanley Platt at Scranton, Pa.

Children of Leora E. and Stanley Platt.

Shirley Mae Platt born June 9, 1935 at Rome, Pa.

Lester James Platt born Jan. 7, 1938 at Owega, N.Y.

Elgin Clower Sink born Feb. 24, 1914.

Paul Cook Sink born Aug. 10, 1915.

Dana Thomas Sink Jr. born Mar. 8, 1917.

Gladys Mavis Sink born Mar. 11, 1918.

Donald Bryce Sink born Feb. 26, 1927.

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Solomon Bigley Sink was born Dec. 15, 1857 at Salem, Pa. He died July 27, 1930 at West Auburn, Pa. He took a second wife, Sarah Etta Westbrook who was born Jan. 15, 1873. They were married April 13, 1892 at Taylorville, Ill. Soon after his second marriage he returned to Pennsylvania taking with him the three children of his first wife.

Children of Solomon B. and Sarah E. Sink.

Clara Sink born July 19, 1893.

Grace Sink born May 17, 1896.

Florence Sink born Jan. 3, 1898.

Eleanor Sink born Mar. 17, 1915.

Solomon B. Sink spent the remainder of his life in Pennsylvania. The children by his second wife were all born in that State. I am told that since his death some of them have moved into the State of New York.

Rev. John Thomas Clower.

John Thomas Clower was born Feb. 19, 1861 on the farm in the Shiloh neighborhood. His early education was secured in a typical one room country school. His life was that of a pioneer boy. When he became twenty-one he worked as a farm hand. A good part of this work was done for his cousin George H. Clower in the Piasa neighborhood.

Deciding to become a minister he entered The Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill. From this school he graduated. He was ordained a Methodist Minister at Beardstown, Ill., Oct. 6, 1901 by Bishop Henry White Warren. He joined the Illinois Conference. From that he transferred to a Missouri Conferenee. While in Missouri he preached at Flat River.

Mrs. Minnie Arnoldi Alexander and Rev. John T. Clower were married at Flat River, Mo. Sept. 27, 1904 by the Rev. William R. McCormic. Her maiden name was Minnie Arnoldi. She was born Oct. 2, 1868. She had two children by her first husband.

James Fred Alexander born Jan. 28, 1893. He is an expert gun-smith. During the World War the Government assigned him to the arsenal at Rock Island, Ill. for the purpose of repairing and keeping in condition small arms. March 23, 1925 he married Helen G. Deihl, a niece of Rev. John T. Clower. He has since worked in the Western Cartridge Company at East Alton, Ill.

Mable Susan Alexander born Dec. 31, 1890. She and Herbert L. Clower, a nephew of Rev. John T. Clower, were married Dec. 25, 1911. They live in Morrisonville, Ill.

Returning to Illinois from Missouri Rev. John T. Clower bought a fruit farm near Carlinville, Ill. Here he lived a short time. Selling this place he bought another near Godfrey, Ill. For a time he left the farm and entered the Southern Illinois Conference but soon returned. While living on the farm he has ever been ready to serve as a local Preacher.

Rev. John T. and Mrs. Minnie A. Clower have one son, Rubert Arnoldi Clower, born Nov. 24, 1908. He was born on the farm near Carlinville.

Joseph Henry Clower born April 13,1863. He died May 5,1934. His entire life was spent in Christian Co.,Ill. except the time he was required to live on a claim in Gove Co.,Kans. to secure a title. He spent his active life as a farmer but in late middle life he bought a home in Taylorville. In this home he and his wife died.

Minnie Florence Deal was born in the Shiloh neighborhood on a farm adjoining the one on which her future husband was born. She was born Dec.17,1868. She died Nov.22,1930.

Joseph H.Clower and Minnie F.Deal early formed an attachment for each other.Her father objected to the match. They eloped and were married in Taylorville Sept.23, 1889 by the Rev.Henry Wilson. They are buried in the cemetery at Morrisonville.

Children of Joseph and Minnie Clower.

Herbert Lester Clower born June 27,1890.

Mable Susan Alexander born Dec.31,1890.

Herbert L.Clower and Mable S.Alexander were married Dec.25,1911 by Rev. John T.Clower in his home near Godfrey,Ill. Their children are:-

Arthur Edmund born Dec.15,1912.

Paul Wesley born Oct.14,1914.

Joseph Franklin born Oct.8,1916.

Ruth Irene born Nov.26,1921.
died Aug.5,1930.

Margaret Louise born Aug.1,1924.
died Dec. 1927

Annabel Bernice born Jan.4,1929.

Alice Audra born Sept.26,1930.

Robert Eugene born Jan.20,1932.

Marianna born Jan.20,1934.

Great Grand Children of Joseph and Minnie.

The above Arthur E.Clower and Delta May Peat who was born May 9, 1915 were married in Carlinville, Ill. Jan.7,1936. They have two boys.

James Fredrick born Sept.24,1936.

Richard Wayne born Feb.26,1938.

Georgia Clower born July 17,1894.
died Oct.27,1894.

Margaret Elizabeth Clower born May 4, 1896.

Ira Lloyd Vancil born April 8,1886.They eloped and were married in Hillsboro,Mo. Nov.24,1924.

Leah Howel Clower was born Jan.12,1867 on a farm midway between Virden and Taylorville,Ill. Before her marriage she was a teacher.

George Lescher Deihl son of Samuel and Henrietta Deihl was born Oct.9,1852 in Stroudsburg,Monroe County,Pennsylvania. He was a mason by trade and was considered one of the best.d,4/30/1939.

Leah H.Clower and George L.Deihl were married in the home of her father Dec.11,1889 by the Rev.B.D. Wiley.For some years they lived on a farm near her parents but later moved to Morrisonville, Ill. where he worked at his trade.

Children of Leah H. and George L.Deihl were:-

Harry Samuel Deihl born March 6,1891. He is a farmer.April 1,1916 he was married near Nokomis,Ill. by the Rev.H.W.Brandt to Miss Anna Helena Bauer,who was born Aug. 19,1896. The children of Harry and Anna were;-
- Emma Leah born May 9,1917.
- Ruth Grace born Sept.2,1918.
- Ray Otis born Sept.10,1920.
- Roy Lescher born July,17,1922.
- Ralph Willis born Aug.15,1924

Mattie Elizabeth Deihl 2nd child of Leah H.and George L. was born July 26,1893.She and Otto Willis Ensley,who was born Mar.20, 1888,a baker by trade,were married Oct.2, 1919 in Taylorville,Ill.by the Rev.F.G. Flagg. There were no children.

Helen Genevieve Deihl 3rd child of Leah H.and George L. was born Jan.9,1897. She and J.Fred Alexander who was born Jan.28,1893 were married in St.Louis,Mo.March 23, 1925 by the Rev.C.W.Tadlock.

Ray Thomas Deihl 4th child of Leah H.and George L.was born Sept.26,1899. By trade he is an Auto Mechanic. He and Mrs.Bernice Genevieve Yocum,a widow,whose maiden name was Watson,and who was born Nov.6, 1900,were married Feb.7,1929 in Toledo, Ohio,by C.L.Eikost,Justice of the Peace.

Rolla Lescher Deihl 5th child of Leah H.and George L.was born March 13,1902 died Mar. 8,1922.At the time of his death he was a student in the University of Illinois. His death was the result of a cold contracted while acting as a Guard of Honor to Gen.John L.Pershing who was on a visit to the University.

Rosalie Muriel Deihl 6th child of Leah H.and George L.was born Feb.11,1904.She and Wallace Dewey McLaughlin,a skilled cabinet maker,who was born Nov.12,1891,were married in Decatur,Ill.Oct.6,1927 by the Rev.G.A.Papperman.

Charles Wilson Clower born Feb.4,1871. Before marriage he taught school. After he was married he farmed near his father for a few years but in early life he moved to Morrisonville,Ill. where he worked at the carpenter trade.

Annie Elizabeth Daum was born Oct.7,1869. She and Charles W.Clower were married Feb. 7,1894. at Carrolton,Ill. by the Rev. Frank C.Bruner. There were no children by this marriage.

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Allen Tompkins Clower born Aug.17,1874.He died June 30,1935. He began life as a farmer but early in life rented his farm and moved to Morrisonville,Ill. where he worked at the carpenter trade.

Ada Delplane Curvey born Sept.3,1876. She became the wife of Allen T.Clower Feb.20, 1901. They were married in the Methodist Parsonage at Taylorville,Ill. by the Rev.F.A.Parker.

Children of Allen T. and Ada D.Clower.

Glen Orren Clower born April 24,1902. died Mar.10,1903.

Velma Jessie Clower born Dec.6,1903.

Ray Charles Bullard was born Nov. 30,1903. He was a barber.Velma J. Clower and Ray C.Bullard were married in Chicago,Ill. by the Rev. Ray Wilson. They had one child. Norma Lucile Bullard born Feb.3, 1925. She died March 28,1938. Owing to the reckless life he led Velma J. was divorced from Ray C. Bullard soon after the birth of their child.She has since remarried. Her second husband was Ross Mayo Kline,a salesman.He was born May 25,1890. They were married in Edwardsville,Ill. Jan.6,1936 by the Rev.C.L.Attig. They established a home in Jacksonville,Ill.

Eight Generations from Joseph Tomkins.

1st Generation wife.
Joseph Tomkins Martha Campbell.

2nd Generation. wife
Nathaniel Tomkins Nancy Bedford

3rd Generation wife.
William Allen Tompkins. Rebecca Vaughn.

4th Generation. husband
Mary Elizabeth Tompkins. Thomas Frazier Clower.

5th Generation husband
Mary Matilda Clower Solomon Bigley Sink.

6th Generation. husband
Leah Elizabeth Sink. Levi Elmer LaFrance.

7th Generation husband
Genaveve Ruth LaFrance Raymond Ace
Their Children of the 8th Generation.
Donald Levi Ace.
Francis Charles Ace.
Howard Lester Ace.

7th Generation. husband
Mary Pauline LaFrance. Kenneth Lloyd Tewkebury.
Their Children of the 8th Generation.
Joan Elizabeth Tewkebury.

6th Generation wife.
William Lee Sink. Caroline Agnes France

7th Generation. husband
Leola Agnes Sink. James Stevenson
Their Children of the 8th Generation.
Barbara Lee Stevenson.

6th Generation. wife.
Dana Thomas Sink. Fannie Cook.

7th Generation husband.
Leora Elizabeth Sink. Stanley Platt
Their Children of the 8th Generation.
Shirley Mae Platt.
Lester James Platt.

5th Generation. wife.
Joseph Henry Clower. Minnie Florence Deal.

6th Generation. wife.
Herbert Lester Clower Mable Susan Alexander.

7th Generation wife
Arthur Edmund Clower Delta May Peat.
Their Children of the 8th Generation.
James Fredrick Clower.
Richard Wayne Clower.

The Tompkins and Wilson Families Meet.

The first home of Wm.A.Tompkins in Illinois was on a farm owned by Judge Joseph Scott of Jerseyville. It was located several miles south-east of Jerseyville near what was called Stanley's Mound. Here he lived until he moved to the farm he bought near Piasa in Macoupin Co. While living on the Scott farm two sons were added to the family. The first was named Joseph Scott Tompkins after the owner of the farm,who was not only a landlord but an old friend.

When Billie A.,as Mr.Tompkins was called by his friends,moved to Macoupin Co.it was fairly well settled. It was,however,a new country with much wild game,as a single story will show. There were few fences for about the only material with which fences could be built was rails. Grain fields lay open. The Tompkins family had a dog trained to drive stray cattle from their fields. When anyone took the dog by the ears and,holding him up,showed him a bunch of cattle he would go and drive them away. One day a herd of deer got into a field of young corn. The dog was started after them. At sight of the dog the frightened deer,after the manner of their kind,raised their white tails and ran. The dog equally frightened, dropped his tail and ran for the house. There was much unbroken prairie. Such game as prairie-chicken, wild-pigeon,quail and rabbits together with geese,ducks and plover in season was plenty.

The pioneer village of Piasa was well established. It's first house had been built in the spring of 1836 by George Parker a leader in the group from Kentucky.He was a Baptist and about him gathered a few of that denomination to form a church. His house was a log cabin. It still stands (Jan.1,1939) but is now covered with weather-boards and additions have been added. It is located on the east side of the road leading south out of the village,near the top of the hill and is at present owned by John Beeby. The first store had been opened in 1849 by Wm.Baily. The same year a school-house had been erected. The year 1850 saw the establishment of a Post Office with Charles Tally as Postmaster,also a blacksmith shop run by H.G. Tally. Among the early settlers of the neighborhood were the Parkers,the Clarks and Strattons from Kentucky;the Dennys,the Forwards and

The Tompkins and Wilson Families Meet.

Tallys from Delaware; the Beebys, the Tribbles and Wilsons from England. There were others but those named will suffice to show the material that was being poured into the melting pot of the then Far West to build a new type of citizen.

Billie A., in his new home, found among his new neighbors an English family, living three quarters of a mile to the south, by the name of Beeby. A half mile further south was another English family, the Wilsons.

Thomas Henry Wilson, Sr., the head of that family and Elizabeth Bowman were married in England and immediately started to America. The trip from Liverpool to New Orleans was made in a sailing vessel. Six weeks were required for the trip. From New Orleans they went directly to St. Louis and made their home at what is now Sixth and Market Streets. On their arrival in St. Louis they had fifty cents in money. A wooden chest held all the rest of their property. The chest measures two and one half feet by 14 inches by 14 inches. It is now in my possession. Also in my possession is the old Episcopalian Prayer Book they brought to their new home. At the time they settled in St. Loius all west of their home was either field or forest.

Thos. Wilson, Sr. and a friend engaged in the business of buying chickens, eggs, butter and other frontier commodities and taking them to the New Orleans market. The first child Thos. Henry Wilson, Jr. was born Feb. 9, 1832. Their home was located near the old Catholic Cathedral. In a short time trouble developed between the Wilsons and their Catholic neighbors which resulted in the former moving to North Alton, Illinois. Here two sons were born. The first died an infant. The second was Charles Bowman Wilson.

The year that George Parker built the first cabin in Piasa saw the Wilsons settle on the homestead west of the village where descendants are still living. There was at that time a settlement at Rhoades' Point (now Medora) and another at Brighton. There was a Post Office at Brighton. The country was largely prairie. The cabin of the Wilsons was built near where the present house stands. A draw now developed into quite a creek, ran through the 160 acre homestead from the north and joined the Piasa

The Tompkins and Wilson Families Meet.

Creek. The statements that follow were largely given me by my father, Thomas Henry Wilson, Jr.

The Piasa Creek was then not more than 18 feet wide. My father as a young man has often run and jumped it. In the creek, just below where the above mentioned draw entered it, was a deep hole where Tom and Charlie learned to swim and where they fished. An old Indian trail crossed the Piasa Creek near this fishing hole. The trail led from Alton via Godfrey and entered the Piasa neighborhood at Hickory Grove. This was a natural grove of hickory trees and was later the location of a Negro Church. A few hundred yards west of the grove was, and still is, a fine spring of water. After crossing the Piasa Creek the trail led over the slope on the west side of the draw on the Wilson farm and followed the course of what is now State Highway 111 to Rhoades' Point. It was at Rhoades' Point (Medora) that a party of white men (in the year 1809) led by Major Solomon Pruitt, following a band of hostile Indians, gave up the pursuit of the Indians. This expedition was the result of the Indians having killed a white man near Alton.

The life of the Wilson boys was that of all pioneer boys. They learned to use the axe, drive oxen and work the farm. In their spare time they fished, caught wild game and in season gathered wild plums, wild grapes, hazel-nuts, hickory-nuts, walnuts and ate their fill of black-haws and persimmons. As they would be passing a flock of prairie-chickens with a team of oxen it was one of their accomplishments to pop off the head of a chicken with their ox-whip.

One day they were left at home by their parents who had gone to town. Some strange men came and carefully searched the slope across the draw to the west of the house. The small boys were frightened and hid. It was afterward reported that the men had been sent to locate the grave of an Officer of the Revolutionary War. The name as I remember it was Capt. Welch or Walsh. Had the boys not been frightened they could have pointed out the grave as they had often played about it. The men had searched the wrong draw. The grave is on the west slope of the next draw to the west. It is still unmarked. A cousin, Arthur C. Wilson, tells me it can yet be located by the color of the soil when the field is plowed.

The Tompkins and Wilson Families Meet.

One day the boys were sent to the field to plow. They were barefooted. A rattlesnake bit Charlie on the foot. Tom applied the only first aid he knew. He got down and sucked the wound. There were no ill effects.

When the boys were old enough to go to school the nearest school was at Rhoades' Point. There was no road through the tall prairie grass. Prairie grass often grew taller than a man's head on horseback. The distance was nearly five miles. That the boys might not get lost the father plowed a furrow for them to follow. That was the first work done on Highway 111.

When the boys were nearly grown, P.T.Barnum's Circus came to Jerseyville. The Wilson boys went. In Jerseyville they met their cousins the Mundell boys from Delhi. Mrs.Mundell and Mrs. Wilson were sisters. While they were waiting for the circus to open they were passed by a middle aged man and a little girl. They greeted the Mundell boys who lived near them and noticed there were two strange boys with them, one a young man wearing a pink shirt. On arriving at the show ground the man bought the girl a ticket and sent her into the show. She became frightened and began to cry. A friend came to cheer her. Among the sights she was to see were Tom Thumb and a man without arms. The latter could write, cut with scissors, use a knife and fork, infact, do almost anything with his toes others did with their hands. The little girl did not know it until long after but she saw that day for the first time her future husband and my father. It was the young man with the pink shirt.

The year that Billie A. moved to Macoupin (1854) young Tom Wilson with one of the Mundell boys and two of the Stratton boys went to California. They went via New Orleans and Nicaragua. The trip from New Orleans took exactly one month.

The new home of Billie A. was on the old Indian trail. It was by this time a well traveled road. Over it the settlers, who lived to the north, drove their hogs and took their other produce to Alton to be slaughtered and shipped. The Tompkins home was one of the favorite stopping places. It was situated on the prairie a mile from timber where wild animals might

harbor. There were lots in which to confine stock and feed could be secured for the animals. The house was large for that period which gave ample sleeping room. Mrs. Tompkins liked to cook for stranges and she could thus earn some ready cash, a thing not plenty in that day. One night some drovers, after they had eaten supper, asked if she cared if they played a game of poker. She gave her consent. Later when she went into the front room she was very much surprised to see them playing cards. Years after when some one of the family would joke her about it she would reply, "I did not know it was a card game. I thought they were going to play some game with the poker." Being a strong Baptist she knew little about cards.

The Wilsons not being near an Episcopal Church joined the Methodists. In their home the first Methodist Sunday School of the Piasa neighborhood was organized. Peter Cartwright, a famous circuit rider, baptised Mary, their youngest daughter.

The country where my grandfathers settled has greatly changed. I have seen the passing of the game, nuts and wild fruits, black-berries excepted. I look back with satisfaction and a tinge of sorrow on a sight I once saw. We boys were in the school-yard playing one of the many games we used to invent, suddenly the sky was darkened by a flight of small birds. They were going north. The flock seemed to be about a quarter of a mile wide and at least a mile and a half in length. The flight was steady. We were excited and wished for guns. We did not know we were looking at the last flock of wild pigeons to pass that way. Silently and without hesitation they flew northward near the old Indian trail as other flocks had had flown for time immemorial.

Family of H.D.Wilson,Sr.

Henry Dickinson Wilson,Sr. was born and raised on a farm one half mile north of the village of Piasa,Ill.The farm was one that his father had been given by the grandfather who was one of the earliest settlers of that neighborhood. Henry was born Aug.23,1866.

There was a good grade school at Piasa where he secured his early education. Three outside factors contributed to this education. Singing Schools was one. For two years he accompanied by two friends,George James and his son Will, walked to Medora,about five miles, and back twice a week to attend the Choral Union Society. A second factor was a Chautauqua which was established on the Mississippi River not far from his home.The third factor was a Methodist Minister,R.Z.Fahse, who was a naturalist and geologist.A man who held ideas far in advance of the average minister of his time.Inspired by this minister young Henry spent much of his leisure time searching for specimens in the woods near his home. Out of the three factors grew a desire for a higher education.

When twenty-one years of age the President of M'Kendree College,Lebanon,Ill.offered to educate him if in return he would give his life to the ministry. This offer was declined.

An Aunt,Elizabeth Wilson,sent him to The Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind.for two years. He then borrowed money from an Uncle,C.B.Wilson,to complete his course.He graduated in the summer of 1890 in both the Music and Scientific Courses with the Degree B.S. He afterward did advanced work in Music under private teachers in both St.Louis and Chicago.

Much of his active life was spent as a teacher. He taught as follows. Three years in the Ouachita Parish and City High School,Monroe La. Two years in the Chillicothe Normal School,Chillicothe,Mo. Three and one half years in the Dickinson County High School,Chapman, Kans. One year as Principal of the Grade School,Dillon,Kans. Having decided to quit teaching he moved on a farm he had purchased south of Carlton,Kans. While living on this farm he was asked to teach the local one room school.This he did on condition that the board would furnish a set of band instruments for use in the school. There were 19 pupils in the

school.In the fall of 1905 he organized, what may have been,the first one room country school band with nine of his pupils and himself as members. Early in 1908 he received an offer to teach in the South. For the sake of educating his children he accepted. In the fall of 1908 he began his work in the Louisiana Industrial Institute,now the Louisiana Polytechnic Institute,Ruston,La. Here he taught 18 years. After this he was Postmaster for about 5 years at Ruston,La. In addition to the above he worked one year in Illinois and one in Kansas as a private teacher of music.

While teaching in Chillicothe,Mo. he had as an assistant one of his students a Miss Fannie Belle Gilliland from Kansas. They were married Aug.30,1896 by the Rev.H.A.Koogle,a Lutheran Minister,in the home of her father, W.C.Gilliland,four miles south of Carlton,Kansas.

Fannie Belle Gilliland.

Fannie Belle Gilliland was born on a farm not far from Crawfordsville,Indiana near New Market,Dec.7,1871. She died June 9,1932. When she was but a child her father moved to Kansas. They first settled in Norton,County in that part of the State later referred to as the Dust Bowl. Their home was a dug-out. Fuel was scarce. Often all that was available was the dry dung of buffalo or domestic cattle. It was known as buffalo chips. Crops failed. Her father and three half brothers went back into central Kansas to secure work. After they were gone there was a prairie fire. Fannie and her brothers,Frank and Charlie, were able to get the cow from the prairie within the fire guard which her father had plowed before he left,but the chickens that had strayed out on the prairie were practically all burned. As soon as he and the boys secured work her father sent for the mother and small children. They settled in Chapman,Kans.Here for some time the mother ran the local boarding house called the hotel.Soon the father and half-brothers entered Land Claims in the southwest part of the County. Being able to enter both Homestead and Timber Claims the four were able to secure title to a large tract of land. Here the father engaged in the cattle business for many years. The mother not being strong much of the house work

devolved upon Fannie. At the age of 14 she took care of the house and did the cooking for a family of 8 and the cow-hands. She early developed a love for music and her father bought her a reed organ. She was one the young people depended upon to help furnish the music for the dances they held in the various homes. Her opportunity to secure an education at home was limited. Her father,however, sent her to the County High School at Chapman,Kans. Later she was sent to the Normal School at Chillocothe, Mo. After her marriage she studied piano under H.A.Kelso Jr.in Chicago,Ill.At Chillocothe she had taken the Business Course with music as an added Course. When the World War came the Matron of the Tech Dining Hall resigned to go to be near her husband who had gone as Captain with the local Company. Fannie was selected to take her place. For some years she served in that capacity. Her experience as a girl stood her in good stead.

Fannie's mother was a Kentucky girl. Fannie inherited the characteristics to be expected in one who descended from a State noted for its women. She was devoted to her family, her social duties and her church.

Children of H.D. and Fannie Belle Wilson.

Frances Elizabeth Wilson born May 17,1900 in the home of a friend,Mrs.James Adams, Abilene,Kans. She was a teacher by profession.She holds a Bachelor's Degree from the Louisiana Polytechnic Institute (L.P.I.). She has done advanced work at North Western University,Evanston,Ill.;University of Colorado,Boulder,Colorado; L.P.I.: and University of Louisiana,Baton Rouge, La. She has taught in the High School at Ruston,La.; High School at Chennyville,La.;Ouachita Parish High

School,Monroe,La.and as a substitute teacher in the Training School of Louisiana Polytechnic Institute.

Mary Caroline Wilson was born in her father's home in Chapman,Kans.Feb.12,1902.She is also a teacher by profession.Like her sister Frances her first year of school was in a one room country school. Also like Frances she was educated in the High School of Ruston,La. and L.P.I. She secured her Bachelor's Degree in 1924. She did Summer School work at North Western University,Evanston,Ill. She obtained an Earned Master's Degree from Peabody,Nashville,Tenn.,in 1930. She has since done graduate work at Clark University and Teacher's College, Columbia University. She has taught in the Ruston Public School; Training School of L.P.I.; Methodist Orphanage,Ruston,La.; Murry State Teacher's College,Murry,Ky.; East Texas State Teacher's College,Commerce,Tex. and Western State Teacher's College, Kalamazoo,Michigan.

Henry Dickinson Wilson Jr. born on the farm south of Carlton,Kans. Aug.20,1907. Like his sisters he was educated in the schools of Ruston,La. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from L.P.I. He is a Mechanical Engineer and is employed by the Buffalo Forge Company,Buffalo, N.Y. He was married June 2,1934 to Ruth Amelia Burkhardt, who was born July 24,1909,by the Rev.R.Carl Stoll in her father's home,Williamsville, N.Y.

Children of Henry and Ruth Wilson are
Henry Carl born July 2,1935.

Family of H.D.Wilson,Sr.

Roy Sylvian Wilson was born on the Campus of L.P.I.April 29,1910. He was educated in the schools of Ruston. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from L.P.I. He is an Oil Chemist. He was employed by the Root Refinery,ElDorado,Ark. until the depression when he was let-out with many others. He then went to the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa where he worked on his Master's Degree but resigned before completing it and accepted a position as Chemist with the Lion Refinery,ElDorado,Ark. He was married Dec.8,1934 to Ruby Lorene Ratcliff who was born July 27, 1906 by the Rev.Homer Kirkpatrick, Baptist Minister,in her father's home Minden,La.

Children of Roy and Lorene Wilson are
Frances Lorene born Jan.2,1936.
Audrey Jean born Jan.7,1938.

Margaret Agusta Wilson was born on the Campus of L.P.I. Aug.19,1912. She and her brother Roy were the first brother and sister to be born on the Campus,educated in L.P.I. and graduate in the same class. She like her brothers and sisters holds a Bachelor's Degree from L.P.I. She taught in the Public School at Oak Ridge,La. and at Pioneer,La. In the summer of 1936 she went on an educational tour of the Western States. On this tour she met Max Carlton Harmon,a native of Maine and teacher of history in the High School of Easton,Penn. He was born Jan.29,1898. They were married Aug.10,1937,in the home of her father,Ruston,La. by the Rev. S.E. McFadden,Presbyterian Minister.

"1"

Home and family of T.H.Wilson,Jr.

When Thos.H.Wilson,Jr.and Martha J.Tompkins were married on October 14,1865 by the Rev.Albert Farrow there was no bridal tour. The ceremony was simple and was held in the home of the bride's father. The couple went immediately to their home. The house in which they were to live was one that had been erected by T.H.Wilson,Sr. He erected it for the purpose of renting it to settlers who might need a place in which to live while deciding on a location. It was built on the order of a duplex. There were two large rooms below about 16 feet square with a 7 foot ceiling. There was an equal number above but the ceiling was lower conforming to the slant of the roof on each side. The chimneys,one on each end,did not go entirely to the ground but were on platforms in the upper rooms. The pipe from the stove in the lower room passing through the floor of the upper room. There was a stairway in each lower room.There was a simple banister above to prevent anyone from accidently stepping off. The stairs were open. A child could crawl through them. The house was built to accommodate two families hence there was originally no doors connecting the two parts. Doors had,however, been cut between both the lower and upper parts as young Tom and his sister Lizzie had been living in the house for about a year. The house had been built on a low foundation for warmth. In this house many of the old settlers had lived while selecting a farm and building a house. The old house was known as a story and a half house.

In this house my sister and I were born. I early developed an ambition to crawl through

as well as up the open stairs. This was curbed by the strategy of my mother. She,like many women of that day, had a set of fur muffs. Of these muffs I was deathly afraid.She would lay them on the stairs. They had perfect controll over my curiosity. Before my sister was born two rooms were built to the west. A large room used as a kitchen and diningroom and a small bedroom. I was young but I can dimly remember the commotion and the patch over the place where the door out of one of the rooms was closed. The room with the closed door became our living room.Here we spent much of our leisure time. The chimney had been extended to the ground; a window had been removed and a door opening onto a porch built to the south put in. It was a cosy room on a cold day being protected by rooms on the west and north.

Thomas Henry Wilson,Jr.,born at St.Louis, Mo. Feb.9,1832; died in his farm home March 19,1914; buried in the Methodist Cemetery at Piasa,Ill.

Martha Jane Tompkins born on Stony Hill,near Plainfield,N.J. July 2,1843: died Oct.2,1926 in the farm home near Piasa,Ill.and was buried beside her husband T.H.Wilson,Jr.

Children of T.H. and Martha J.Wilson.

Henry Dickinson Wilson,Sr.,born Aug.23, 1866 on the farm near Piasa,Ill.

Caroline (Carrie) Rebecca Wilson born Feb.9,1869 on the Farm near Piasa, Illinois.

Diary kept by T.H.Wilson,Jr.
during a trip taken to California in year 1854.

The trip from Alton to New Orleans by boat was at that time commonplace which is probably the reason no mention is made of it.

New Orleans, April 6th.
Left New Orleans Thursday,April 6th at eight o'clock and got to the gulf at 6 in the evenind and at 7 I was sick enough.
Friday 7th.
was a fine day but the people all felt rather sick. We had a very rough night of wind.
Saturday 8th.
A fine day and all the people felt pretty well.
Sunday 9th.
was another bright day and in the offing we got a sight of the Island of Cuba and got in the Caribean Sea.
Monday 10th.
The Steamer United States passed by for Panama.
Tuesday 11th.
We had a nice shower of rain which felt sweet.
Wednesday 12th.
was a fine day and playing cards was all the go.
Thursday 13th.
We had a fair wind and we went at 10 knots an hour and in the evening we came in sight of the Corn Islands. I could see sheep on one. We are 80 miles from San Juan del Norte.
Friday 14th.
This morning we are in sight of San Juan and we landed at eight o'clock and the other boat was ready and we got on and went up the Nicaragua River.
Saturday 15th.
In the morning we got to the rapids 100 miles up.We had to walk one mile and a half to the next boat. Loaf of bread that costs five cents in Alton costs fifty cents here cup of coffee 10¢ and so.on.People need not think of getting things cheap here for every thing is ten cents I don't care how small it is. Now came the steamboat with 500 pas-

Diary kept by T.H.Wilson,Jr.
during a trip taken to California in year 1854.

sengers from California gives good news from the mines so we got on came 12 miles to a place called Castillo Falls. Here we had to walk 200 yards to the next boat but she did not come until nine o'clock at night and so I went up to see the fort which had been built 250 years.I have seen a heap of building but this beats all yet. It was all knocked down by the British.

Sunday 16th.

We had to stay at Costillo 40 hours waiting for the New York passengers. We had to pay high for food.We had to pay 75¢ for one pie and 25¢ for one dram. Some got drunk some playing cards some fighting some firing guns and so on.

Monday 17th.

At daylight a cannon was fired to let us know that the New Yorkers had come and so the boat started and came to a place called Torri Rapids. Here we had to walk one mile. We are 40 miles from the lake. We got here at ten o'clock and at three the lake boats came and so we all went on board and started at ten.

Tuesday 18th.

In the morning we were in sight of two large mountains which looked very pretty.We passed along side of them both and at ten we landed out in the lake and had to go ashore in small boats and now we are at Virgin Bay and now for the mules. We all got mules. every passenger is only allowed 25 pounds and over that 15¢ per pound. People do not know that at Piasa. But none of us had that much and so we got on and started and we got to San Juan del Sur about three o'clock. We had a fine time with our mules.Some did not want to go. Some had to kick a little. If any of the folks want to see monkeys send them here more of them than anything else.

Wednesday 19th.

We are across the Isthmus.I don't like this place much. It is too sandy and full of natives and they will steal if they get a

Diary kept by T.H.Wilson,Jr.
during a trip taken to California in year 1854.

chance.

Thursday 20th.

This morning the signal was hoisted for the passengers to go aboard the Pacific. One thousand and ten passengers. We had to go on small boats and most everybody got wet. Some up to the neck.Now we are all on ankor taken in and we are started two o'clock and when we had been one hour out there was a fight about the water but no person badly hurt. We had seen some high mountains on right hand today.

Friday 21st.

Fine day sea very calm and no land to be seen all day.

Saturday 22nd.

A fine day the sea smooth as glass.We have had the worst food today we have had since we started. Crackers is that hard that you might knock the bigest bull that is in the State of Illinois down dead and not break them and very poor coffee and tea and at supper brought stinking meat on the table and the passengers threw it overboard and all hands gave the Captain three cheers for it his meat and then all hands took the power in their own hands and held a meeting and they appointed a committee to see that better food was got.

Sunday 23rd.

We have got better food today. We can make out to live with such as this. Passengers had some fun today with two birds they caught on the ship. Land came in sight at twelve on our right hand. Good many are playing cards and gambling. Don't seem much like Sunday to me like it did when I see such work as that going on.

Monday 24th.

This morning four miles off land.Sand beach on the shore and high mountains lay back. The sand beach is 90 miles long. We got within two miles of it before we got to Acapulco. Here we met with a disappointment. There were two Mexican Men of War which fired two guns to let us know that we could

Diary kept by T.H.Wilson,Jr.
during a trip taken to California in year 1854.

not land that time.Santa Anna and Valpevaya (not certain of that last name) were expecting a battle every hour. So we had to go on without much water. Every man has one pint and women pint and a half a day. Another fight took place this evening between one of the sailors and one of the passengers about some sugar.

Tuesday 25th.
Fine morning see high mountains at a distance looks like a thunder storm rising.

Wednesday 26th,
We are close to land this morning eight o'clock we were within one mile and ran within four miles all day. It is all mountains all rock at that very rough country so I think.

Thursday 27th.
No land to be seen this morning.Very pleasant weather as man need wish to see.We came on the California Gulf last night are on it all day today. It is very calm.

Friday 28th.
This morning we are in sight of the cape of old California and at seven we are landed at Cape San Lucas to take in some water and cattle. We are eleven-hundred miles from San Francisco. There is only seven houses in this town and I can hardly see them for sand. It is nothing but sand rock anyhow. I don't see how people makes a living here. I don't believe by the looks of the country that it has rained for the last twelve months. Two more fights on board today just about a monkey. We left Cape St.Lucas nine o'clock tonight.

Saturday 29th.
Very cold last night very foggy this morning things looks rather dull quite cool all day. We came in sight of the Margarita Island today at twelve.This the Island where the Steam Ship Independence was wrecked. I seen the place where they went on shore. There is a man on board the ship that was on her at the time. He showed me the very spot. I seen the first whale today which I

Diary kept by T.H.Wilson,Jr.
during a trip taken to California in year 1854.

have been looking for some time.

Sunday 30th.

Sea rather(blank)and very cold(word I cannot read) man has on his top coat all day.

Monday May 1st.

Very rough last night and at ten o'clock came very near running on the Senden Islands (Not sure of that name). They had to stop and go right back and take a new course. Left the Islands on the left. They say that 100 yards they would have been on a sandbar. This makes me think of the old woman again. Had a shower of rain today. One of the passengers got drunk this evening and came near stabbing a man. So they tied him hands and feet to see how he likes that.

Tuesday 2nd.

Cool this morning but turns out a very pleasant day. See mountains all day in the distance.

Wednesday 3rd.

Fine morning Sea very calm. I seen where the Winnfield Scott Ship was wrecked on Barbara Islands about three months ago. We run between this Island and the shore. This after noon we came within one mile of shore where a beautiful valley lay prettiest country that I have seen since I left home lots of cattle and horses which looks rather like our prairies but now the fog comes on so that I can't see.

Thursday 4th.

Last night there was another fight between two passengers one drew a knife and the other drew a pistol and would have shot him dead but another man catched his arm and the bullet went up through the upper deck. This morning we came very close to shore. Here is a fine country. Here I see houses and people some plowing and some riding on horses and so on and if I saw one cow I saw five thousand. But the fog comes on again. But when we were just coming into the bay the fog cleared off and I could count seven ships some coming out some going in beautiful sight is now before us. Now we are at

Diary kept by T.H.Wilson,Jr.
during a trip taken to California in year 1854.

the mouth of the river now the flags are hoisted now comes the Inspector to see that all is well. The Captain announces all well so on we come. Now the city is in sight. I have seen several towns since I left home but this beats them all in the way of beauty. We landed at three o'clock May the 4th. The best part of this town is built on the water. A green horn must mind how he walks here in the night or he will go where he will not be found very soon. Now we are at the tavern for supper. We got as good a supper for fifty cents as a man need wish for. But things are cheaper here than at Alton.

Friday 5th.

We left for Sacramento at two o'clock this morning on the Marion. Came ten miles then the engine broke but they soon got it ready. Came 40 miles ran on a sandbar. Had to lay here til the tide came. Traveled all night.

Saturday 6th.

Next morning up in the valley here was nice gardens every thing fit to eat of all kinds. Got to Sacramento ten o'clock today.

Sunday 7th.

We took the stage to Nevada at half past five in which we had to pay twelve dollars distance 80 miles the road rather rough in places. Got to Nevada at eight o'clock at night.

Nevada was evidently Nevada City,California, a center of gold mining at that time.My father spent little time prospecting for gold. He and some friends did go out one day. He selected a place where he wished to wash sand but one of the boys preferred another spot. They were not successful. The place my father had selected afterward proved to be good pay dirt. He spent the most of his time at work on a ranch or in a livery barn in Marysville.One night the barn was burned. He got up in his sleep moved his team and in the morning could not remember where he had taken it. It was found tied to a fence out of town. The original diary is in my possession. This copy is not exact but will help to show something of the education secured by a frontier boy in pay schools run a few months in the year and the things that impressed such a boy making his first contact with the world.

Soldiers of the Revolutionary War.

Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey Vol.IV, page 161 gives grave stones in the old Buring Ground,Orange,among others that of:-

Joseph Tompkins a soldier in the Revolutionary War.He died Jan.1,1804.His age at death was 65 years,8 months and 6 days. From that he must have been born April 26, 1738. It also gives:-

Rachel,daughter of Joseph Tompkins died May 18,1777.

Rhode,daughter of Joseph Tompkins and wifw of Caleb Quimby died Aug.20,1808.

Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey Vol.III page 161 gives the following:-

Jonah Garrison,Private in Artillery,Revolutionary War.Born 1740,died April 25,1831.

Somerset Co.Historical Quarterly Vol.V page 46 gives the following:-

John Vaughn was a private in the Artillery Revolutionary War. He died in the service. His heirs were:-

Levi Vaughn and
Mary Ann Vaughn.

I found in the Grosveno. Library,Buffalo,N.Y. either in the archives of New Jersey or the Report of the Historical Society of that State the following list of Soldiers of the Revolutionary War:-

Amos Tompkins,Captain Samuel Pierson's Co.2nd Regiment,Essex;also State Troups;also Continental Army.

Enos Tompkins---Essex.

Ichabod Tompkins---No County given.

Issac Tompkins---Morris.

John Tompkins---Essex.

Joseph Tompkins--Captain Squires'Co.2nd Regiment,Essex;also Continental Army. Orange is in Essex,Co.and this is very likely the same Joseph given above.

Stephen Tompkins--Captain Josiah Pierson's Co. 2nd Regiment,Essex.

Uzal Tompkins---Morris.

David Bedford--Morris. He is very likely my Great,Great Grandfather,father of Nancy Bedford wife of Nathaniel Tomkins.

John Vaughn,Captain Nixon's Troup Light Horse, Middlesex.

Samuel Vaughn, No County given.

Joseph Tomkins.
born Feb.23,1758.
died Oct.23,1832.
married.
Martha Campbell.
born Nov.23,1747.
died----------

son.
:
:

Nathaniel Tomkins.
born May 14,1789.
died May 10,1860.

David Bedford.
born 1745.
died June 3,1815.
married at Hanover,N.J.
Rebecca Hopping.
born 1750.
died Oct.9,1838.

daughter.
:
:

Nancy Bedford.
born 1793.
died April 23,1834.

married Sept.5,1811.
by the Rev.Aaron Condit of Hanover Church, N.J.

son.
:
:

William A.Tompkins.
born May 17,1812.
died Jan.28,1890.

---oooooooooo---

Francis Vaughn.
born----------
died----------
married.
Mary Blanford.
born---------
died---------

son.
:
:

John Vaughn.
born Oct.13,1783.
died Feb.1,1861.

William Garrison.
born Dec.10,1756.
died June 25,1822.
married.
Mary Carson.
born Feb.23,1751.
died Dec.12,1835.

daughter.
:
:

Nancy Garrison.
born June 25,1783.
died Aug.5,1860.

married Jan.6,1806.

daughter.
:
:

Rebecca Vaughn.
born Jan.14,1814.
died June 28,1902.
married Oct.4,1834.
at Plainfield, N.J.
by the Rev.Daniel T.Hill.
to William A.Tompkins.

daughter.
:
:

Martha Jane Tompkins.
July 2, 1843-----Oct.2, 1926.

David Bedford above is said to have been a Lieut.in theRevolutionary War.Much of the Bedford data was furnished by Mrs. C. Elmer Bedford. I have a letter from the Clerk of the Session of the Hanover Church giving the data of the marriage of Nathaniel and Nancy Tomkins.
John Vaughn was a teamster in the War of 1812.

Dedication Program

NOVEMBER 5, 1966

11:30 A.M.

LOUISIANA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

WILSON CAFETERIA

Master of Ceremonies ..... Mr. S. X. Lewis, Dean of Student Affairs
Louisiana Polytechnic Institute

Invocation ..... Reverend J. W. Lipscomb, Pastor
Presbyterian Church of Ruston
Ruston, Louisiana

Presentation ..... Dr. W. Rodney Cline, Professor of Education
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Acceptance ..... Dr. F. Jay Taylor, President
Louisiana Polytechnic Institute

Prayer of Dedication ..... Reverend Douglas L. McGuire, Pastor
Trinity Methodist Church
Ruston, Louisiana

Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Wilson painted by Miss Mary Moffett, Professor of Art, Louisiana Polytechnic Institute.

Souvenir Programs Courtesy of Louisiana Tech Alumni Association

* * *

The Wilson cafeteria, deemed by many the most beautiful building on the campus, is in contemporary architectural style and yet somehow reminiscent of the best architectural principles practiced throughout the ages from the Greeks through Frank Lloyd Wright. Dignified and impressive in structure on the hill, it nevertheless preserves a low silhouette, solidifying with the ground. The lovely color contrast of the concrete and bricks is especially noteworthy.

There are four lines for student service, each capable of serving eight to ten students a minute, and four separate dining rooms adjacent to these lines, each seating 252 guests. The dining hall uses a variety of designs and color schemes that produce an informal, warm, and intimate atmosphere, even though the building is so brilliantly executed that as many as 2,000 students can be fed at a meal period, and in the event of inclement weather all of them can be in the building at one time without crowding.

Mr. Beuford Jacka was the architect. Mr. C. Vern Bybee planned the designs for the food services. Mr. Raymond Nichols, head of the Art Department at Louisiana Tech, planned the color schemes. The building and its equipment cost about one million dollars.

The cafeteria is named to honor Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Wilson. Mr. Wilson, a distinguished singer and instrumentalist, was head of the Music Department at Louisiana Polytechnic Institute from 1908 to 1926. Mrs. Wilson was in charge of the dining hall from 1914 to 1922. All five of the Wilson children are graduates of Louisiana Tech. The family has been notable for many years for leadership in educational and cultural activities.

Dedication Program

Some information is noted in this publication

THE TOMKINS-TOMPKINS GENEOLOGY

sic!

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by
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Clare F. Tompkins
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